

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



BIBLE

Old Testament Survey

Students will gain a broad understanding of the Old Testament. Students will learn of God's gracious creativity, man's sinful rebellion, and God's redeeming love. Following the history of Israel, they will discover God's grace in the provision of sacrifices, a foreshadowing of the once for all sacrificial death of Jesus Christ, the sinless substitute, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

New Testament Survey

Students will gain a broad understanding of the New Testament, the final twenty-seven books of the Bible. Students will see the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, as the long-awaited Messiah comes to rescue the world from their sins. Students will be encouraged to study God's Word in order to connect with God through Jesus Christ and find eternal life.

Systematic Theology

Students will be introduced to systematic theology. Systematic theology attempts to organize what the Bible says about God and His ways into a thoughtful system. This course focuses specifically on God, man, the person and work of Jesus Christ, salvation, and the church. This course seeks to help students develop a passion for God and his Word, to know Him, and build a firm foundation for all of life.

Comparative World Religions

Students will explore the history, teachings, and practices of the major world religions. In a society that declares, "All religions basically say the same thing," this course seeks to help students humbly and thoughtfully defend the Christian faith as the only true and saving faith. Key doctrines of each major religion will be looked at in light of history and God's Word. Students who understand the beliefs and convictions of those around them will be better equipped to be "all things to all people" for the sake of the Gospel.

MATH

Algebra ½

Algebra ½ (pre-algebra) introduces algebraic concepts and geometrical topics. Students taking this course will not receive credit towards their high school diploma, but will be prepared to enter high school level math.

Algebra I

Algebra I covers all topics of a first year algebra course, including proofs, statistics, probability, and application of algebra to real-world problems. This course focuses on algebraic thinking through verbal, numeric, symbolic, and graphical representations.

Geometry

Geometry covers the concepts of perspective, space, and dimension associated with practical and axiomatic geometry. Students learn how to apply and calculate measurements of lengths, heights, circumference, areas, and volumes. Geometry introduces trigonometry and allows students to work with transformations. Students will use logic to create proofs and constructions and will work with key geometry theorems and proofs.

Algebra II

Algebra II will prepare students for calculus and includes explicit embedded geometry instruction. Algebra II reinforces trigonometry concepts and provides practice with statistics. Real-world problems and applications for other subjects like physics and chemistry are also included. Supplementary labs investigate and model mathematical situations.

Trigonometry

Topics include the study of the trigonometric functions, plane trigonometry, and analytic trigonometry. This course provides an in-depth focus on developing skills needed for calculus.

Pre-Calculus (College Algebra)

This course develops the topics of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry, and ties them together. Students will learn a range of skills that form the foundation for higher mathematics. Students will also develop problem solving skills and analytical thinking.

Calculus

Calculus is an introductory course to college level calculus. Students will develop an understanding of limits, derivatives and integrals.

ENGLISH

Literature/Composition/Grammar

This course provides a review of grammatical understanding, while developing the compositional skills of developing ideas, structure for papers, and addressing various audiences. Composition will focus on developing the students' ability to apply knowledge of grammar to their own writing, learning to evaluate and edit their writing so that they can communicate clearly and concisely. Students will also refine their computer skills using various programs including word processors, spread sheets, publishing, and presentation software. Students will examine famous works of literature to develop analytical and evaluative skills, including the examination of Biblical themes and ideas in the texts.

World Literature/Composition/Grammar

This course focuses on famous historical literary works from around the world and contrasts them with events and ideas presented in the Bible. Composition consists of a review of grammatical understanding, and the development of various compositional skills. Focus centers on the writing process and developing effective works, including research papers, formal letters, fiction writing, and literary response. Students will also expand on computer skills using programs for word processors, spread sheets, publishing, and presentation.

US Literature/Composition

This course surveys American literature and follows the development of philosophies and ideas that have shaped culture and society. Students read a range of prose, poetry, and novels and develop a biblical perspective of the literature. Composition consists of a grammatical review and the development of various skills. Focus centers on the writing process and developing effective works, including narrative, descriptive, comparative, and persuasive essays. Essay composition includes the development of research skills and the development of the thesis statement. Students will also expand on computer skills using programs for word processors, spread sheets, publishing, and presentation. Students who qualify may earn three college English credits through concurrent enrollment in Northwest Nazarene University (additional transcription fee applies).

British Literature/Research Paper

This course surveys British literature and follows the development of philosophies and ideas that have shaped culture and society. Students will learn to evaluate the works from a Christian perspective through analysis and comparison to biblical principles. Composition focuses on developing the research paper, understandings of rhetoric, and writing skills for college and the workplace. Students will also expand on computer skills using programs for word processors, spread sheets, publishing, and presentation. Students who qualify may also earn three college English credits through concurrent enrollment in Northwest Nazarene University (additional transcription fee applies).

SCIENCE

All science classes taught at Firm Foundation Christian School from grades 7-12 regularly use the science lab, partake in a curriculum that stresses problem solving, higher level thinking skills, individual and group work. Information is presented from a Christian perspective and strives to explore God's logical and organized design plan.

Physical Science

Using the A Beka text, students study the science of the physical creation. This includes meteorology, oceanography, plus introductions to chemistry, geology, and physics. Held in the Firm Foundation science laboratory, students employ the scientific method to carry out experiments that make the text alive. Engaging investigations apply the text in a hands-on format to reach many learning styles. Science in ninth grade strives to reach young people for the Lord and support the students as they learn and train in the Christian way of life.

Biology

Biology is a rigorous fast-paced course that teaches in-depth botany, human anatomy, genetics, cellular structure, fungus, ecology, zoology, plus entomology. This class uses A Beka's *God's Living Creation* text that presents biology from a Christian perspective. It includes multiple dissections, projects, labs and research projects. Biology class is held in the science laboratory.

Chemistry

The chemistry text *Precision and Design* is written from a Christian perspective. This course seeks to not only give students a solid foundation in chemical principles, but also seeks to help students understand the practical application of these principles. The students will learn properties of matter, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, chemical bonding, and gain an understanding of all the elements on the periodic chart. The students will enjoy a hands-on lab performing experiments that will help further their knowledge in chemistry.

Physics

Physics is a challenging and exciting course of study taught from a Christian perspective. Physics stretches the students' understanding of matter and energy. Employing extensive hands-on laboratory experiences, the students will investigate the areas of mechanics, thermodynamics, electricity, optics, acoustics, and modern physics.

HEALTH

Students will learn how to be better stewards of the life and body God blessed them with. God's Word says that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. This course will explore the many dimensions of health: physical, mental, spiritual, emotional, relational, etc. Students will learn about the benefits of physical activity and good nutrition, and the detriments of substance abuse and unhealthy, ungodly relationships.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Washington State History

Students will chart an in-depth survey of the state. Topics include the history, geography, Christian missions, economics, constitution, and government of Washington state. Emphasis will be on contemporary issues and problems that face citizens of Washington.

World Geography

Students will acquire an understanding of the relationship between physical geography, natural resources, and the political, cultural, religious, and historic aspects of human activity. They will acquire an understanding of interrelationships between people and their environments and apply these concepts to the study of world regions.

World History

In this course, students will explore God's story of humanity from the dawn of creation up to the present. Students will examine the consequences of our ideas and beliefs, exploring different worldviews. This course explores the rise of civilizations in Asia, Europe, and the Americas, with emphasis on the rise of Western Civilization.

United States History

Students will survey US History from early exploration and colonization, through the Revolution and Civil War, up to the present. Students will make an honest inquiry into America's roots, exploring the rich heritage of liberty and Christian influence, to the dark veins of slavery and exploitation. Students will hopefully complete the course with a deep gratitude and a humble honesty towards America's past, present, and future.

Contemporary World Issues

Students will take an in-depth survey of 20th century world history, focusing specifically on key issues currently facing humanity. This course intends to give students a solid historical, geographical, and ideological background for understanding these current events in light of biblical Truth.

SPANISH

Spanish I

Students will be able to communicate their basic feelings, needs, and desires in most every day contexts. Students will learn through listening, conversation, Bible verse recitation, pronunciation, word formation, and grammar.

Spanish II

Students will review techniques learned in Spanish I, with emphasis placed on excellent pronunciation and reasonable grammatical accuracy. Students will reach the point where they can begin to freely converse in the language on their own. Spanish II provides additional time for application and enrichment activities. Students will apply what they've learned through Bible story translations, cultural readings, written reports, and communication skills. Students will participate in enrichment activities including Spanish songs and choruses, power point presentations, Spanish books and/or magazines, games, meals, and guest speakers.