

FREDERICKSBURG CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC HANDBOOK
2020-21

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to describe in general terms the courses taught at Fredericksburg Christian High School. Students, in conjunction with their parents, should select courses of study that will prepare them for the future.

We encourage you to follow the scriptural admonition to be good and faithful stewards of your time and talents for the Lord. As you select courses outlined in this handbook, please consider taking upon yourself the responsibility for continuing your spiritual and intellectual growth.

REGISTRATION / SIGN-UPS

We ask that the student and his parents read the academic handbook prior to the conference with Mrs. Thomas. Course selection / scheduling conferences will be made between February and April. Please plan early for your conference and have the Course Selection Form filled out prior to the conference. This form requires a parent's signature and is crucial to our planning.

The courses offered in this handbook cannot be guaranteed. A course may or may not be available based on teaching personnel, student enrollment, and scheduling patterns. The courses listed, however, are expected to be offered next year considering staff and enrollment projections.

Courses out of normal sequence may present a scheduling problem. For example, a sophomore choosing to begin a foreign language (some begin in 8th grade) may find a scheduling conflict with another course. This does not mean courses out of sequence are impossible to be scheduled, but it can result in the necessity of other undesired changes.

DROPPING CLASSES

While we ask that students and parents select appropriate classes according to their preferred program of study, we know that some students may not succeed in particular areas of study. Students may drop a course and add another to accommodate this situation. On occasion, such needs may exist when different levels of courses need to be changed. (Example: Advanced English to English, AP English to English) These types of changes are required. Class preference changes, on the other hand, will not be allowed after the end of the first marking period.

Students may drop a course *up until the end of the fourth week of school*. If a student drops a yearlong class prior to the four-week deadline, the course will not be shown on the permanent transcript. But if the student drops a class after the end of the first four-weeks and before the 4th marking period, it will show on his permanent transcript as drop-pass or drop-fail with the grade. The grade will not be averaged into the cumulative grade point average. After the 4th marking period has started, all grades will show on the transcript and it will be averaged into the cumulative grade point average.

Students who drop a class will be assigned another class in its place. The academic appropriateness and availability will determine class selection. The procedure for dropping a class after this time consists of a conference with the Grade Level Counselor and completion of a pink "Student Parent Course Change" form (approval requires a signature by the student, teachers involved, parents and Dean Roper). The form **MUST** be turned in to Mrs. Thomas. Schedule changes will **NOT** go into effect until all these steps are completed.

No assistant work (office assistant, teacher assistant, library assistant, etc.) will be assigned after the first quarter; a study hall will be assigned unless the student is a senior and must have a credit to graduate. Only one credit for assistant work during high school years is allowed.

In the process followed for dual enrollment students who drop / add a course, the sponsoring school or college will determine the dual enrollment class and/or grade.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Students at Fredericksburg Christian High School have additional opportunities available to further prepare them for their future. High school students can earn additional high school or college credits through a variety of independent study, work-study programs, or dual enrollment programs. These programs of study are available with the recommendation of the guidance counselor, principal or teacher. These programs work best for students who can work well on their own, or who have particular vocational interests and abilities. These programs of study must be coordinated through the Guidance Office.

Advanced Placement Program:

Advanced placement courses give qualified students the opportunity to do college-level work while still in high school. These courses are available to students who meet the following requirements: recommendations from previous teachers, qualifying PSAT scores, earning an “A” in the prerequisite classes, and a high motivation level. Upon completion of an AP course, students take a nationally administered examination in May. Based on their score, students may receive college credit or advanced standing for each course taken.

The following AP courses will be offered:

AP English Literature and Composition
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP US History
AP Art
AP English Language and Composition
AP Government
AP Biology
AP Psychology

Dual Enrollment Program:

The dual enrollment program is designed to offer students of all academic levels the opportunity to broaden their learning in areas of specialization. There are two major areas:

- Technical or Professional dual enrollment - coordinated courses of study for the qualified student through a local community or 4-year college. This may or may not include specialized work-study in the corresponding course work. It enables a student to gain advanced standing in identified programs at the college level.

The following Dual Enrollment classes offered at FCHS: DE Chemistry and DE English

DE Chemistry college credit is earned through Germanna Community College and DE English is earned through Richard Bland Community College.

EIGHTH-GRADE COURSE / CREDIT

If a student takes Algebra I, Geometry, Earth Science or a foreign language in the eighth grade and meets the course requirements for high school credit; the course may be counted for credit towards graduation. The grade in the class/es will count toward the student’s cumulative grade.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

A student may be placed on academic probation for a variety of reasons: newly transferred, pattern of homework problems, failure to cooperate with faculty or work to his potential. **Any student who accumulates 3 or more points will be placed on academic probation at interim time. Students who decide to drop a class due to probation will still serve the three weeks on probation. A “D” counts as 1 point, and an “F” counts as 2 points.** Students will not be able to participate in extra-curricular activities until the student shows an improved grade. The timing will be decided by the athletic director and the principal to determine if the student warrants re-instatement. Athletes on athletic probation will **practice 3 times but not participate in games** or travel with the team until they are no longer on academic probation. Students placed on academic probation must understand that continuance in their negative pattern is serious and could jeopardize their placement at FCS Upper Campus.

SUMMER SCHOOL

The subjects offered for summer school at FCHS will be announced in the spring each year. **If students wish to take a summer school course elsewhere, the Principal must grant permission. English cannot be taken elsewhere.**

FAILED COURSES

Courses that do not meet the required grade for passing and are required for graduation must be repeated. For underclassmen, full-year and semester courses must be repeated the following year. During the senior year if a student is in jeopardy of failing a course, he will not be allowed to participate in the senior trip. The senior is required to report to school during the regular school hours, and to work intensively toward learning / accomplishing the required material for passing. The senior must make special arrangements with the principal as to the academic requirements needed to pass the class before a diploma will be issued, or return the following year to complete the requirements.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND RANK IN CLASS

The GPA is obtained by converting the numerical grades of a student’s courses into a point value system. The high school courses taken during grade levels 9 -12 grades are factored in the cumulative GPA. Courses taken prior to the ninth grade which are considered to be high school courses (Algebra I, Geometry, Earth Science or a foreign language, etc.) are figured in the GPA. Each numerical grade is assigned a number value. Listed below is the conversion point value system:

July 2010 – present

Rank	Code	Description	Low Limit	High Limit	Unweighted GPA values	Weighted +.5 value	Weighted +1 value
1	A+	Superior	98	100	4.5	5.0	5.5
2	A	Excellent	93	97	4.25	4.75	5.25
3	A-	Excellent	90	92	4.0	4.5	5.0
4	B+	Above Average	87	89	3.5	4.0	4.5
5	B	Above Average	83	86	3.25	3.75	4.25
6	B-	Above Average	80	82	3.0	3.5	4.0
7	C+	Average	77	79	2.5	3.0	3.5
8	C	Average	73	76	2.25	2.75	3.25
9	C-	Average	70	72	2.0	2.5	3.0
10	D	Below Average	65	69	1.0	1.5	2.0
11	F	Failing	0	65	0.0	0.0	0.0

Weighted Courses:

The following courses will be awarded an accelerated weight value in calculating the GPA:

Adv. Bible	+0.5	Hon Spanish III	+0.5	AP Psychology	+1.0
Adv. English 9	+0.5	Hon French IV	+1.0	DE Chemistry	+1.0
Adv. English 10	+0.5	Hon Spanish IV	+1.0	AP Calculus	+1.0
Adv. English 11	+0.5	Adv. Geometry	+0.5	AP U.S. History	+1.0
Adv. US History	+0.5	Pre-Calculus	+0.5	AP Government	+1.0
Adv. Spanish II	+0.5	Calculus	+0.5	AP English	+1.0
Adv. French II	+0.5	Hon Physics	+0.5	DE English 12	+1.0
Hon French III	+0.5	AP Biology	+1.0	AP Art	+1.0

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students attending Fredericksburg Christian School may earn a general course of studies or advanced course of studies. The requirements for each diploma are outlined in the following tables.

GENERAL DIPLOMA	
Subject	Units of Credit
Bible	4
English	4
Social Studies	4
World Geography	
World History	
U.S. History	
Am. Government / Economics	
Math	3
Laboratory Science	3
Physical Education / Health	2
Fine Arts Elective	1
Electives	5
Total Units	26

ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA	
Subject	Units of Credit
Bible	4
English	4
Social Studies	4
World Geography	
World History	
U.S. History	
Am. Government / Economics	
Math	4
Laboratory Science	4
Physical Education / Health	2
Fine Arts Elective	1
Electives	2
Foreign Language – French or Spanish (3 years of 1 language or 2 years of 2 languages)	3
Total Units	28

Repeated Courses:

When a student repeats a course previously passed or failed in order to improve a grade, only the highest grade earned is used in calculating the grade point average, and only the credit received for the highest grade will be awarded. All grades will remain on the transcript.

Class Rank /Transferred Grades:

Transcripts will reflect all course work done at the high school level. If students transfer in from other accredited schools, their grades will be reflected per their previous school scale and will affect their Grade Point Average and class rank. International high school credits will be documented according to the translated international transcript. For college application purposes, a copy of the international transcript will be sent with the Fredericksburg Christian transcript. Only the grades from accredited United States schools will be used toward grade point average and rank in class.

Home school High School Credits:

FCHS will only award high school credit on a pass / fail basis, if the work is not done through an accredited home school program. (This will be handled on a case by case basis, based on documentation of student work and administrative approval.) If the credits are transferred from an accredited home school program, grades will be transferred. Homeschoolers must be in attendance at FCHS for their junior and senior year to be qualified for Valedictorian or Salutatorian. Homeschoolers must be in attendance at FCHS for one semester before being qualified for National Honor Society. All home school students will be placed in Class Rank.

Audited Courses:

Transferred audited grades will not be given credit and are not averaged in the grade point average. They will be shown on the permanent transcript.

COURSE OFFERINGS

BIBLICAL STUDIES

BIBLE 9

Grade: 9 **Required**

Prerequisite: None

Full year course: 1 credit

This course is designed to develop a basic knowledge of the Old Testament, Christian Doctrine, and Hermeneutics. A survey of the Old Testament will provide the foundation to understanding the key elements of the New Testament. Christian Doctrine will instruct the student in the major tenets of the Christian faith. And finally, an introduction to hermeneutics will develop the student's Bible study skills with the goal of making them an effective Bible student.

GOSPELS

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Semester course: 1/2 credit

This course is the study of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We will explore God's Word as His revelation of Himself and His plan of salvation for us. We will study it, memorize it, and explore what it says, what it does and see how it applies to our daily lives.

MAN OF GOD

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Semester course: 1/2 credit

Using Proverbs as a basis, this course will be a topical study of human relationships, life situations, and current issues. Emphasis is placed on discernment and development of positive character qualities. This course is also designed to encourage young men to be an example in their faith and pursue excellence as they grow.

Unit 1: Wild at Heart

Unit 2: Welcome to war (spiritual warfare)

Unit 3: Proverbs: Book of wisdom

Unit 4: Wisdom

Unit 5: Character

Unit 6: Relationships

Unit 7: Adultery

Unit 8: Stewardship

WOMAN OF GOD

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Semester course: 1/2 credit

This course is designed to further encourage young women to search the Scriptures to draw closer to God in the understanding and practice of faith. Emphasis will be given to determining what it means to understand and apply Scriptural principles to "real life," purity and living in our society as a Woman of God. "Woman of God" will strive to go beneath the physical to reveal the soul of young women. We will use "Captivating" as the text and create a major project "My life as a princess."

APOLOGETICS

Grade: 11 **Required**

Prerequisite: None

Semester course: 1 credit (Required for graduation)

The content of this course will focus on a specific study of apologetics, worldviews, moral relativism, and world religions. This class will be taught in the hope of preparing students for life's choices and the philosophies of the world which they will encounter.

DANIEL / REVELATION

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: none

Semester course: ½ credit

The content of this course will focus on a specific study of prophecy. This class will be taught with the goal of making students aware of the different images concerning the end times found in scripture. An emphasis will be placed on the hope that Christians have in this coming tribulation.

ADVANCED BIBLE I

Grade: 12

Weight: +.5

Semester course: ½ credit each semester

Prerequisite: Must have completed Apologetics with a “B” or above. Recommendation from teacher, serious, high motivation.

Students must write a one page essay describing their testimony and reason they want to enroll in the class.

The course will study a method of evangelism, the process of sanctification, and the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. This class is for the serious Bible student.

ADVANCED BIBLE II

Grade: 12

Weight: +.5

Semester course: ½ credit each semester

Prerequisite: Advanced Bible I. Recommendation from teacher.

The content of this course will focus on a specific study of Doctrine and Apologetic issues. This class is for the serious Bible student.

WOMAN OF GOD II / MAN OF GOD II

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: WOG I / MOG I

Semester course: ½ credit each semester

This course is designed to teach upperclassmen how to apply practical principals learned in MOG/WOG 1, such as how to develop intimate relationships, handle financial situations, effectively study the Bible, identify personality strengths, weaknesses and spiritual gifts, which will result in guiding them to their place in the Kingdom of God.

1. Epic (1wk)
2. Song of Solomon study (3wks) (field trip for ballroom dancing and etiquette principles)
3. Financial peace Univ. (6wks)
4. Bible Study Methods (3 wks) (layered in between) (ex: topical study)
5. Finding our purpose (1.5wk)

ROMANS

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: None

Semester Course: ½ credit each semester

This course was developed because it addresses the fundamental theology of the Christian faith which is so imperative for all believers. The themes of God’s righteousness and the justification of the believer are at the heart of Romans and the gospel message. In this course, students will recognize in a practical way the need for righteousness, the provision of righteousness, and how righteousness is worked out in the life of a believer. The obvious theological issues of Romans will be addressed but the prevalent practical issues and applications will not be neglected.

ENGLISH STUDIES

***Please note:** There are three levels of English classes offered at each grade level: Small Group, College Preparatory, and Advanced. Students are placed in the appropriate class based on academic ability.

ENGLISH 9

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: English 8

In this course students read and discuss various genres of literature and the elements that distinguish each type. In addition to the text, three classic novels and plays are studied. Students learn to recognize and distinguish different literary devices in each literature selection. Special emphasis is placed on the writing process. Students write both creatively and analytically. Writing assignments are a vehicle for grammar review.

ENGLISH 10

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 9

This course is a study of various types of world literature and written expression. Emphasis is placed upon utilizing the God-given gift of language to express oneself, as well as interpreting the self-expression of others in light of God's Word. A cursory survey of world literature beginning with ancient eastern writings and continuing through modern European literature is made in this course.

ENGLISH 11

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: English 9, 10

This course is a study of American literature. The student reads critically, gains insight into American history and culture, increases his understanding of the range and depth of human experience, and explores the relationship between style and meaning in literature. The student writes descriptive, persuasive, and expository compositions, as well as conducts research and writes a paper.

ENGLISH 12

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11

This course is a study of various types of English literature and various forms of written expression. Emphasis is placed upon critical thinking and formal writing skills as English literature is interpreted in comparison to Biblical principles. A survey of English literature is made in this course, which follows the survey of American literature accomplished in English 11. A persuasive research paper on a social issue is also completed as part of the class / graduation requirements.

DUAL ENROLLMENT ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Grade: 12

Weight: +1

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11 (Recommendation of teacher, reading and writing standardized test scores 80th percentile or higher, high motivation)

90 or better in Advanced English 11 or a B in AP English

Through the advanced study of English literature of all genres, the student will gain insight into English history and culture, increase his understanding of the range and depth of human experience, and explore the relationships between style and meaning in literature. The student will recognize, analyze, and discuss elements of various genres and write critically about literature. The students will complete four research papers, two each semester using both MLA and APA styles. This course can be taken for college credit through Richard Bland Community College's dual enrollment program for an additional fee. With at least a C average in each semester (Eng 101 and Eng 102), the student will complete the school year with six college credits in English composition.

AP ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Grade: 11 or 12

Weight: +1

Prerequisite: English 9, 10, 11 (Recommendation of teacher, reading and writing standardized test scores 80th percentile or higher, high motivation) 90 or better in Advanced English 11

Through the advanced study of English literature of all genres, the student will gain insight into English history and culture, increase his understanding of the range and depth of human experience, and explore the relationships between style and meaning in literature. The student will recognize, analyze, and discuss elements of various genres and write critically about literature. The students will complete four research papers, two each semester using both MLA and APA styles.

CREATIVE WRITING

Grades:11-12

Students will learn to write creatively within different genres, with the understanding that writing is a process and each piece is a “work in progress.” The goal is for the student to find his own writing voice and style. The great writers of the past and present will be the teachers, and from them the students will learn techniques and forms that will make them better writers. Each student will submit at least one work for publication in a literary journal or magazine.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (offering based on enrollment)

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: none

This course is designed to assist multi-cultural students in expanding their vocabulary and knowledge of English grammar and culture. Gradual improvement in oral and written expression and comprehension is expected, and the student is assisted in overcoming areas of personal difficulty in order to reach his / her goals.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

World Geography is a course designed to help the student study the physical features of the earth and their effects on the political, economic and social life of a country. Emphasis is placed upon helping the student develop awareness for international concerns utilizing comparative cultures.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: World Geography

This course is designed to develop a Biblical understanding of the world's major socio-economic, political, and religious systems. The curriculum will cover Ancient, Medieval, and Modern eras. Students will explore how the events and developments of the past have come to influence the present and will influence the future.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on many aspects of American history including, but not limited to, these areas: exploration and colonization, American War of Independence, the Constitution, early American education, the Civil War and reconstruction, industrialization, the Progressive Movement, the Great Depression, the World Wars, and Communism. There is a weekly focus on current events and an analysis on how the news events are a continuing part of making history.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: None

This course includes basic studies that focus upon the Biblical foundation of government and the Constitution. Included is a study of each branch of government, the free market system, and political parties. There is daily focus on current events and how they relate to our current government and American culture.

PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Psychology is the study of the mind and individual behavior. It is a soft science which attempts to understand and develop principles which can be consistently applied to the activities of the mind, behavior, feelings and emotions. It compares, to a much lesser degree, the differences between humans and animals. Psychology will be examined within the context of Biblical Christianity and how that controls how we understand and apply principles to the discipline. Students will also do a comparative study between secular and Christian understanding of the subject matter. Students will perform and develop experiments which will help them in their understanding.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: 85 or better in English and completion of Biology with a B and above

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology.

ADVANCED US HISTORY

Grade: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the history teacher

85 or better in Adv. English or college prep English

85 or better in World History

High motivation, completion of and assessment of a critical writing essay

This advanced course is a study of the history of the United States. This course is faster more intense course than the college prep course.

AP US HISTORY

Grade: 11 or 12

Prerequisite: Recommendation of the history teacher

88 or better in Adv. English or College Prep English

88 or better in World History grade

PSAT qualifying scores

High motivation, completion of and assessment of a critical writing essay

This advanced placement course is an intensive study of the history of the United States. This course is a college level course. Upon completion of the course, students take the nationally administered AP examination in May. Based on their scores, students may receive college credit or advanced standing for this course. As with any AP class, having this class offered will depend on class enrollment and teacher availability.

AP GOVERNMENT

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Recommendation from US History teacher, 90 or better in APUSH, Adv. English and English

This course is an intensive study of the formal and informal structures of government and the processes of the American political system, with an emphasis on policymaking and implementation. This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Exam.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I

Grade: 8, 9

Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Algebra with at least a C (70% or higher); teacher recommendation.

Algebra 1 is the study of the real number system and its properties and is the extension of arithmetic with numbers to arithmetic with variables. Students study the evaluation and simplification of algebraic expressions, solution of linear and quadratic equations, linear inequalities, systems of equations, operations with polynomials, exponents and exponential functions, radical and radical equations, and graphing topics typically covered in a first-year algebra course.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA I

Grade: 8

Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Algebra with at least an A (90% or higher); teacher recommendation.

Algebra 1 is the study of the real number system and its properties and is the extension of arithmetic with numbers to arithmetic with variables. Students study the evaluation and simplification of algebraic expressions, solution of linear and quadratic equations, linear inequalities, systems of equations, operations with polynomials, exponents and exponential functions, radical and radical equations, and graphing topics typically covered in a first-year algebra course.

GEOMETRY (Full year or Summer)

Grade: 9 or 10

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra I with at least a C (70% or higher)

This course is a study of Euclidean geometry beginning with basic definitions and continuing with postulates and theorems in order to develop proof-writing skills while emphasizing the connection between geometry and the physical world. Critical thinking, logical reasoning, and problem solving skills are stressed and enhanced throughout the course. This course is recommended for students who have passed Geometric Algebra I. This course does not set students up to take Advance Algebra II. It is designed for those going into Algebra II.

ADVANCED GEOMETRY

Grades: 9 or 10

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra I with at least an A (90% or higher) or Advanced Algebra I with at least a B (80% or higher); teacher recommendation

A study of Euclidean geometry beginning with basic definitions and continuing with postulates and theorems in order to develop proof-writing skills, students will study the tools of geometry (reasoning, constructions, and measurement) as well as the properties and applications of lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, circles, and transformations. Critical thinking, logical reasoning, and problems solving skills are stressed throughout the course. Honors Geometry goes into greater depth and emphasizes proofs more than the regular course.

ALGEBRA II

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry with at least a C (70% or higher) in both

Algebra II is the study of the following topics within the framework of the real number system: equations and inequalities, linear and quadratic equations and functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems, matrices, polynomial and rational functions, powers, roots and radicals.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA II

Grade: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisites: successful completion of Advanced Algebra I and Advanced Geometry with at least a A (90% or higher) in both, or Algebra I and Geometry with at least an A (90% or higher) in both; teacher recommendation

Algebra II is the study of the following topics within the framework of the real number system: equations and inequalities, linear and quadratic equations and functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems, matrices, polynomial and rational functions, powers, roots and radicals, quadratic relations and conic sections, trigonometric ratios, functions, graphs, identities and equations. Critical thinking and problem solving skills are emphasized throughout the course.

ALGEBRA III

Grade: 11 or 12

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra II or Advanced Algebra II with at least a C (70% or higher)

Algebra III helps students realize that algebra is everywhere. The course emphasizes the use of algebra in real world situations. The course covers topics typically covered in a basic pre-calculus course. These include: a review of the fundamentals of algebra, linear and non-linear functions and their graphs, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems of equations in two or three variables, matrices and determinants, conic sections and analytic geometry. The end of the course also touches briefly on sequences, induction and probability. This course serves to point the student to the intelligence and orderliness of their Creator, as well as to develop the Christ-like qualities of perseverance and stewardship. A student is required to have successfully completed Algebra III to continue to Statistics.

PRE-CALCULUS

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Weight: +.5

Prerequisites: successful completion of Advanced Algebra II with at least a B (85% or higher); teacher recommendation

Pre-Calculus is the prerequisite course for both Calculus and AP Calculus AB. Students will conduct an in-depth study of functions and their characteristics, to include polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions. A thorough study of trigonometry is conducted in the second half of the course: the definitions, applications and graphs of trigonometric functions, as well as the solution of trigonometric equations. The course includes an introduction to the use of a graphing calculator. The goal of this course is to provide a strong understanding of functions and trigonometry and their applications, thereby preparing students to

perform well in Calculus or AP Calculus next year.

CALCULUS

Grades: 11 or 12

Weight: +.5

Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Calculus with at least a B (80% or higher); teacher recommendation

This is a basic introductory calculus course, designed for the student who wants a fifth year of college preparatory mathematics but is not ready for college-level calculus. A review of functions, to include the properties of elementary functions, including algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, and composite functions, as well as their inverses and the graphing of these functions and trigonometry, precedes an introduction to limits and to differential and integral calculus.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grades- 11 or 12

Weight: +1

Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Calculus with at least an A (90% or higher), high motivation, and teacher recommendation

Taught at a college-level, AP Calculus AB is a course in single-variable calculus that includes techniques and applications of the derivative, techniques and applications of the definite integral, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. It is equivalent to at least a semester of calculus at most colleges and universities, perhaps a year at some. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout the course, thus a graphing calculator is required. The goal of this course is to provide students with a strong understanding of foundational calculus concepts and their applications, thereby enabling them to perform well in math courses beyond first semester college calculus, and to teach students the skills needed to perform well on the AP exam. A score of 3, 4, or 5 on the nationally administered exam in May of each year may result in college credit for one semester of Calculus, depending on the college being considered.

AP CALCULUS BC

Grade: 12

Weight: +1

Prerequisites: successful completion of AP Calculus AB with at least a B (85% or higher), high motivation, and teacher recommendation

This is college-level course follows AP Calculus AB. Topics include modeling using a graphing calculator, advanced and more complex integration techniques, infinite series, conic sections, parametric equations, and use of polar coordinates. A score of 3, 4, or 5 on the nationally administered College Board AP Calculus BC exam in May of each year may result in college credit for one or two semesters of Calculus, depending on the college being considered.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Grade: 11 or 12

Prerequisites: none

This course develops students understanding and skills in such areas as money management, budgeting, financial goal attainment, the wise use of credit, insurance, investments, and consumer awareness and responsibilities from a biblical perspective. In this two-semester course, students will design personal and household budgets; simulate use of checking and saving accounts; demonstrate knowledge of finance, debt, and credit management; and evaluate and understand insurance and taxes. This course will provide a foundational understanding for making informed personal financial decisions now and for situations later in life.

STATISTICS

Grade: 11 or 12

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra II with at least a B (80% or higher) or Advanced Algebra II with at least a C (70% or higher)

This course is an introduction to descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will study frequency distributions and graphs, data description, counting techniques, probability, discrete and continuous probability distributions, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, chi-square tests, and correlation and regression. A TI83+ or TI84 calculator is required for this course; students use their calculators to organize and explore data, simulate experiments, and calculate probabilities for both discrete and continuous distribution. Students successfully completing this course should be ready to take a more rigorous introductory course in statistics in college.

SCIENCE

***Please note:** The levels of Science classes offered at each grade level may vary according to the needs of the students at any given year. Students are placed in the appropriate class based on academic ability.

EARTH SCIENCE

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None (can skip if earned an A in 8th grade science, teacher recommendation and has taken Algebra I already)

This course explores God's wonderful and unique design of planet Earth and its surrounding universe through the introduction of four sciences: geology, astronomy, meteorology, and oceanography. The student will gain a basic knowledge of each science and how God's laws governing the universe interplay in dynamic, complex, and wondrous ways to provide the environment in which we dwell.

BIOLOGY

Grade: 9 or 10

Prerequisites: Earth Science

Biology is a study of living things and their relationships to one another in ecosystems. This includes respect for the place that each component has in God's world and the responsibility man has to care for the environment. Extensive study of ecosystems, cell structure, functions, genetics and the distinguishing characteristics of the five kingdoms and ecosystems are taught. Laboratory work is done with microscopes and other equipment utilized in small groups to discover the relationships and complex functions of living things. Students compose their own lab reports after receiving instructions on individual experiments.

CHEMISTRY

Grade: 10, 11 or 12

Prerequisite: Completed Algebra I; taking or have completed Algebra II

This course focuses on the study of the elements and the compounds they form. This includes problem solving using unit analysis, writing formulas and equations, types of compound bonding, and the extensive mathematical and thermodynamic relationships or equations. Students spend time in active laboratory work.

DUAL ENROLLMENT CHEMISTRY

Grade: 12

Weight: + 1

Prerequisites: Completion of Chemistry, Algebra II, taking Pre-Calculus / Calculus

Recommendation from the Chemistry teacher, SAT qualification or Germanna testing

High motivation – requires two periods

This course is intended to be the equivalent of a first year chemistry course in college. Students work to develop a deeper understanding of chemistry concepts and problem solving techniques that were presented in general Chemistry. In addition, new topics are introduced and students work toward competence in these areas. The laboratory work is of a different content and mathematical requirement is of a higher level. This course is endorsed by Germanna Community College and a college credit is rewarded to students who successfully complete the course with a "C" or better.

ANATOMY / PHYSIOLOGY (offering based up enrollment)

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisite: Biology with a "C" average or better, with teacher recommendation

Students will study the complexity of the human body by a systems approach, first learning the anatomical parts, then the physiological working within the system and ultimately the entire body. Laboratory work in dissection with microscopes and experiments demonstrating the process will coincide with the study. The students will be exposed to a general overview of the body. This course is not recommended for anyone with less than a "C" average in biology.

PHYSICS

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Chemistry, Geometry and Algebra II

Enrolled in Pre-Calculus / Algebra III with Trigonometry or higher

High motivation

This course is a college preparatory study of the physical laws governing the universe – how energy and matter are related in the physical world that God has created. In particular this course will cover the topics of mechanics, electricity, magnetism, and wave theory. Analysis and problem-solving are emphasized. Students also learn actively through laboratory work.

HONORS PHYSICS (not offered for the 2020-21 school year)

Grade: 12

Weight: +0.5

Prerequisites: Chemistry, Geometry and Algebra II with a “B” or better final grade

Completed Pre-Calculus or higher

High motivation

This course is the study of the physical laws that are fundamental to all sciences. In each concept, the student will work from the common simple illustrations to develop the more complex applications. The scope includes motion, thermal energy, wave energy, electricity, and magnetism. Independent study and experimentation are expected from each student.

AP BIOLOGY

Grades: 12

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry with an “A” in both and standardized test scores

This course primarily focuses on providing students a solid foundation in general biology and chemistry. The Big Idea statements used as guidelines for the course help students to develop greater and deeper understanding of the study of life. The lab investigations and science practices give students a hands-on application of abstract principles and help them to apply their knowledge to everyday life situations.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH I

Grade: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: None

This course is an introduction to language and culture. It includes basic grammar, vocabulary, and an exploration of the cultural and historical background of several countries where the language is spoken. At this level, oral and written communication is limited to single words, short phrases, and expressions used in the context of familiar topics. With the help of cognates, listening and reading comprehension are slightly more developed. This course is not recommended for students enrolled in Basic English classes their freshman year, because an adequate background in English is important for achievement in a foreign language. The level of successful mastery of year one will determine if the student is recommended by the teacher to progress to an advanced track or a regular track. In the advanced track, four years will be offered. In the regular track, three years will be offered. Because approval to move on to the advanced level requires mastery of a least 80% of the material from 1st year, students are generally not recommended to proceed without a C+ or higher in the class and a passing grade on the exam.

SPANISH II

Grade: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisite: Spanish I teacher recommendation, with an 80% average and a 70% or higher on the final exam

Students taking this class will be eligible to take Spanish III – Regular, but not Spanish IV. This course reviews, reinforces, and refines the skills of Spanish I. It expands the vocabulary, grammatical concepts, and civilization while strengthening listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. At this level, oral and written communication include complete sentences and short paragraphs, while listening and reading comprehension include short readings of cultural or spiritual value.

SPANISH II -ADVANCED

Grade - 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite - Spanish I teacher recommendation for effort, ability, and motivation; with an 88% average and an 80% on final exam

This course reviews, reinforces, and refines the skills of Spanish I. It expands the vocabulary, grammatical concepts, and civilization while strengthening listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. At this level, oral and written communication includes complete sentences and short paragraphs, while listening and reading comprehension include short readings of cultural or spiritual value. Students taking this class are eligible for Spanish III Honors, and then Spanish IV Honors.

SPANISH III - HONORS

Grade - 11, 12

Weight - +.5

Prerequisite – Advanced Spanish II with an 88% or better with the teacher’s recommendation for effort and ability

This course strengthens the student's oral and written expression. Directions are given in Spanish and the use of English is limited. Application of basic grammar, listening comprehension and speaking skills are also improved. Passages for listening and reading are longer and more complex, and the student is expected to use context clues, cognates, inference, word families, and other techniques of interpretation.

SPANISH III

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Spanish II teacher recommendation, with a 75% average and a 75% or higher on the final exam

This course strengthens the student's oral and written expression as well as reading and listening comprehension in the context of thematic units. Foundational concepts are reviewed, applied, and expanded.

SPANISH IV - HONORS

Grade: 12

Weight: + 1

Prerequisites: Spanish III Honors (with a C+ average or above and a passing grade on the final exam)

This course is designed to help the student achieve independence in Spanish by requiring nearly exclusive use of the language in written and oral work. Comprehension passages are longer and include samples from various periods and locations in the Spanish - speaking world. Correct usage of basic grammar and vocabulary are expected, and the student is aided in overcoming areas of personal difficulty. Previously introduced material is reviewed and more detailed points are added to build upon familiar concepts.

FRENCH III- HONORS

Grade: 12

Weight: + 1

Prerequisites: French I and II (with a "C+" average or above and a passing grade on the final exam)

This course is designed to help the student achieve independence in French by making acceptable, nearly exclusive use of the language in written and oral work. Correct usage of basic grammar and vocabulary is expected, and the student is aided in overcoming areas of personal difficulty. Previously introduced material is reviewed and more high-level skills build upon familiar concepts.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH 9

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: None

The physical education classes focus on the development of individual and group skills and also include a segment of health education. The allocation of time for each of these components is consistent with the standards recommended by the Virginia Department of Education.

LIFE SKILLS

Grades: 9-12

This course would teach the basics of cooking, sewing, simple repairs, car maintenance, budgeting and other basic skills used for life.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH 10

Grade: 10

Prerequisites: Physical Education / Health 9

The physical education classes focus on the development of individual and group skills, and also include a segment of health education. The allocation of time for each of these components is consistent with the standards recommended by the Virginia Department of Education. The classroom portion of Driver's Education is also offered within this course. There is an additional fee for the enrollment into the driver's education program which is taught during the PE / Health scheduled class time. The "behind the wheel" enrollment and schedule is determined jointly by the parents, student, and instructor. It is not part of the FCS curriculum and must be coordinated by the parent.

BODY / STRENGTH & BODY CONDITIONING

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

The class will focus on the proper strength and body conditioning techniques emphasizing the proper physical development of the student athlete. Safety and proper techniques in weight training will be paramount. During the class students will develop;

- 1) Muscular strength endurance and cardiovascular fitness
- 2) Muscular power through the use of heavy weights and reps.
- 3) Alternative activities for maintaining cardiovascular fitness and flexibility
- 4) A knowledge of good nutrition and its relation to weight training
- 5) Appropriate strategies for gaining and losing weight
- 6) A personal weight training program based on their own needs.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

FLASH / DREAMWEAVER (offering based on enrollment)

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II with a B+ or better

The Flash course, a one-semester course, provides an overview of Flash's capabilities to enable students to use the basic Flash tools and techniques. The course consists of three parts: Part I provides an introduction to the Flash workspace, toolbar, panels, file types, and basic drawing, painting and animation skills. Part II briefly covers importing and working with audio and video files, creating a slideshow, navigational buttons and publishing Flash files. Part III consists of a final project.

The Dreamweaver course introduces students to the fundamental skills necessary for building a basic Web site with Dreamweaver. Students will learn how to format text, insert images create links, add and edit tables, build a form, insert Flash files and create simple navigational elements. The course consists of exercises, lab assignments and required reading. The course, which is a one-semester course, culminates with a final project.

INDESIGN/PHOTOSHOP (offering based on enrollment)

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II with a B+ or better

The Photoshop course, which is a one semester course, prepares students to independently utilize the creative features of Adobe Photoshop. The course consists of three parts. Part I is an introduction to Photoshop and its many tools, Part II looks deeper into the concept of digital effects including the basics of photo retouch and several artistic techniques. Part III is the final project which is a creative culmination of all topics covered.

YEARBOOK

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Keyboarding, Good writing and time management skills, Application required and teacher recommendations

The basic objective of this course is to produce a yearbook that will serve as an accurate record of events for Fredericksburg Christian School for that particular year. The students will experience the dynamics involved in working on a deadline as they demonstrate the need for total commitment to one's responsibilities. During the course of the year they will: learn the basic elements of design which involve photographs, captions, copy, headlines, internal margins, external margins, gutter, white space, folios, and eye line; learn about column layouts and graphic elements; adhere to rules of journalism, punctuation and style guides; procure advertisement; learn to use Adobe In Design CS PageMaker 7.2 software and learn to use the tools used to produce the yearbook. Upon completion of this course, the student will have gained an appreciation for every aspect involved in publishing a book.

ENTREPRENEUR / LIFE SKILLS

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Entrepreneur is a comprehensive course designed to provide students with the skills to create a conceptual enterprise and bring it to market. The development of a business plan will serve as the foundation for the students' efforts to organize, capitalize and develop their new businesses. Course projects include: logo design, marketing materials, customer database, mail-merge, sales and expense budget, loan schedules, organizational charts, multimedia presentation, web page design and business plan. Some students from past classes have actually started their own successful businesses.

MULTIMEDIA TRAINING COURSE

Grade: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

“Telling Stories with Moving Images” - Students will explore the power of the moving image as a medium for telling stories. They will learn how to use the visual language of movies and television to create a story and convey information to an audience. Students will learn a variety of video production techniques, including using a camera, composing an effective shot, creating a soundtrack, and editing footage to create a finished product. At the end of the course, and for course promotional purposes, it is planned that students will present a public screening of the video and audio works they have created during the course, to our students and parents. It is also a goal of the course that students will be given assignments, as needed, to create promotional videos for important events that have been planned for Fredericksburg Christian School.

C++ PROGRAMMING COURSE

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Completion of Geometry with a B+ average or better

The purpose of the C++ course is to introduce students to a more sophisticated and higher level coding course than has been available to students in the past few years. C++ is a powerful general-purpose programming language. It can be used to create small programs or large applications. C++ allows you to create programs to do almost anything you need to do. C++ is used to create computer programs such as art applications, music players and even video games. Many video games have been made in C++. However, the games that will be developed during this course will be somewhat fundamental. Programming, like many skills, takes time. Students will also learn how to create programs for business applications, including programs to calculate and automate a variety of mathematical and accounting tasks.

GAME DESIGN

Grade: 9-12

This course is for anyone who loves gaming and wants to build original games from scratch. Students learn how to use popular game-development software to create, engaging, interactive games in a variety of styles. After learning about game genres, students learn about all aspects of the game-design process. From there, it's on to a series of increasingly challenging hands-on projects that teach all the elements of successful game development. This could be an online course.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

Grade 11-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra 1 and II with an A average in both

The AP Computer Science A course is equivalent to the first semester of a college level computer science course. This course involves developing the skills to write programs or part of programs to correctly solve specific problems. AP Computer Science A also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts in computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications. In addition an understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems are integral parts of the course. This could be an online course.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

ART I – FOUNDATIONS OF DRAWING AND PAINTING

Grade: 9, 10, 11, or 12

Prerequisites: None

Since Art I is a foundational level course, our goal is to give each student an opportunity to become more fully involved in the experience of the visual arts. This course is designed to encourage students to develop skills of observation, show aesthetic growth through visual discrimination and judgment, and develop an appreciation for art. The student will become more fully involved in the experience of the visual arts by: acquiring visual sensitivity through personal response to art; learning the fundamental basic concepts of drawing and painting; and producing artwork that develops art skills as well as reflects a Christ-like attitude. This is accomplished through lectures, demonstrations, class participation, slides, videos, and field trips.

ART II - DRAWING

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Art I

This course is designed so that the student will have a more in-depth study of the concepts, media, and techniques introduced in Art I. Art II – Drawing seeks to provide enriching experiences that foster greater perceptual awareness and creative thinking concentrating solely in drawing. Students will know how to respond to art and they will be capable of judging artwork. They will view art through a historical, philosophical and Christian viewpoint by listening to lectures, watching demonstrations, through class participation, viewing slides and videos plus field trips.

ART II – PAINTING

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Art II – Drawing

This course is designed so the student will have a more in-depth study of the concepts, media and techniques introduced in Art I. Art II-Painting seeks to provide enriching experiences that foster greater perceptual awareness and creative thinking while concentrating solely on painting. Students will know how to respond to art and they will be capable of judging artwork. They will view art through an historical, philosophical and Christian viewpoint by listening to lectures, watching demonstrations, through class participation, viewing slides and videos plus field trips.

AP STUDIO ART

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: Art I – Foundations of Drawing and Painting, Art II – Drawing, and Art II – Painting

This course is designed for those extremely motivated students, who have high expectations, are willing to work hard and are committed to pursuing an advanced level of learning through intellectual engagement. Having successful experiences in previous art courses will better prepare students for the challenge of a more rigorous academic curriculum. The course allows for students to move beyond an entry level of learning to a more advanced level of knowledge. In art, knowledge is meaningless until a creative mind puts it into action. By development of artistic abilities and technical skills, student's progress through stages of proficiency which enables them to develop mastery (i.e. "quality") in concept, composition, and execution of their 2-D design ideas. Using a higher level of learning in making thoughtful decisions, students are capable of addressing more complicated, compositional issues in organizing and integrating the elements and principles of design on a 2-D surface. This allows students to demonstrate expertise in 2-D Design using a variety of art forms. The course emphasizes making art as an ongoing process which involves the student in informed and critical decision making.

There is no written exam; rather, there is a performance-based exam in the form of the AP Studio Art Portfolio. Over the course of the school year, students will pursue, investigate, plan and execute individual projects, having completion of a comprehensive portfolio as their final goal. In order for artwork to be considered for inclusion in the portfolio, it must be of outstanding quality. There must be clear evidence of a concept (the development of an idea and the clear intent of the student to execute the idea), composition (the use of the principles of art for the effective organization of the elements of art) and execution (the technical proficiency displayed by the student in handling the media). According to the AP Studio Art Teacher's Guide, the portfolio experience encourages a variety of approaches to representation, abstraction, expression, and the investigation of social, political, and economic issues. Each portfolio is divided into three distinct sections which are designed to assess different aspects of student performance. Throughout the duration of the course, students conduct an ongoing investigation of all three aspects of portfolio development - quality, concentration, and breadth – as outlined in the AP Studio Art Poster.

3-D DESIGN - SCULPTURE (may not be offered every year)

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Art I – Foundations of Drawing and Painting

The emphasis of this course is on 3D Studio Art. The student will have the opportunity to create 3-D relief sculptures made of fibers, paper, cardboard and wood. Also, they will create 3-D sculptures "In-the-Round" using plaster of Paris, clay, and soapstone. During the process of creating sculptures, students will experience enjoyment thus gaining an appreciation for 2D and 3D works of art.

CHOIR

Grade: 9, 10, 11 & 12

Prerequisites: Demonstration of acceptable tone and pitch matching ability within an octave

This course provides the opportunities for talented vocalists of any experience level to participate in concerts, ministry, and special events as a group. A variety of traditional, popular, patriotic and sacred songs will be performed to glorify God. A commitment to excellence and furtherance of personal and group vocal skills will be pursued. Competitions and solo opportunities will be made available for students who demonstrate advanced skills. Members are responsible to purchase the concert outfit and festival fees. Participation in the following major events is required: Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, District Assessment and Spring Festival.

WORSHIP TEAM

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Interview, Prior experience necessary, enrolled in Choir, Band or Orchestra

This course is designed to facilitate student worship leaders in their preparation for weekly chapel ministries. Students will have the opportunity to develop personal musicianship and leadership skills as well as organizational and performance techniques. This is a pass/fail class taken for credit. It may be taken again for credit. Exemplary standards in conduct, relationships and personal integrity are expected of team members.

BAND

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Minimum of 2 years of instruction on a band instrument. Individual performing audition, with sight reading, will be required. Chair Placement Auditions will take place during the second full week of school.

This course is for those students who currently play a band instrument and are interested in participating in concerts, competition, outreach performances, and special ministry trips. Music from all time periods and several styles will be studied, performed and adjudicated. Styles/genres of music to be performed include Christian, Classical, Baroque, jazz, contemporary band, folk, and swing. Two octave scales and arpeggios will be required and should be memorized throughout the year. Advanced techniques will be discussed per instrument. Students are responsible for purchasing the concert uniform and festival fees. Participation in the following major events is required: Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, District Assessment and Spring Festival.

ORCHESTRA

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: minimum 2 years of instruction on a stringed instrument

Exceptions on a case by case basis and have a performing audition with sight-reading required

This course is for those students who presently play an instrument and are interested in performing in concerts, competitions, outreach performances, and special trips. Music from all time periods and several styles will be studied, performed and adjudicated. Styles/genres of music to be performed include: classical, Baroque, jazz, contemporary band, folk, fiddle, swing, and pops. Three octave scales and arpeggios will be required, and should be memorized throughout the year. Vibrato and shifting skills are mandatory for all instruments.

DRAMA 1

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

This course is an introduction to the theatrical experience for the beginning drama student. General acting principles are taught in a workshop format. Drama history and basic technical theatre technique are also taught with units on set design, lighting, and make-up. Practical hands-on experiential learning is the focus combined with some text work. The role of Christians in the Arts is discussed throughout the year.

DRAMA 2

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Intro to Drama and recommendation of teacher

This is a performance - oriented class requiring a great deal of memorization and motivation. Units on directing and playwriting will be foundational to the class so that students can contribute in all areas. In addition, a research project on the role of Christians in the Arts will be central to the class. Students will be participating in the Virginia Theatre Association One Act Play Festival and preparing scenes, skits, Reader's Theatre and short plays to perform for Chapel at all campuses and various area churches. Students will be expected at times to have weekend performances. Students desiring further exposure to this class with new material may take this class more than once for continued credit.

IMPROVISATION

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisites: None

This course is for the beginning improv student who desires to improve their spontaneity, creativity, and characterization skills. Students will learn the basics of improv, how it developed into an art form that is used around the world, how it relates to other forms of theatre (traditional acting, stand-up and invisible theatre), and how we can use improv as a witnessing tool.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM AND TIMETABLE

FRESHMAN YEAR

- June - August** (Prior to freshman year.) Design a four-year course of study that will prepare your child for college.
Suggested classes: Bible 9, English, World Geography, Algebra 1/Geometry, Biology, Spanish I, PE and Health, elective or study hall.
- August - June** Encourage your child to get involved. Extracurricular activities, class officers and service clubs are all important for a well-rounded student.
*TIP - Community service is a key to many scholarships - document service hours!
Talk with college representatives that visit FCHS.
Set up an appointment with the guidance counselor to talk about careers and professions.
Visit college and career fairs available to you (October).
Keep active, but remember your grades are very important.
- **REMEMBER** - Document all awards, special recognition, leadership, and service activities. Starting freshman year with a strong grade point average is VERY IMPORTANT for college entrance. Stay focused!

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- June – August** Encourage your child to get involved over the summer. This is a time to explore career areas of interest.
*Tip – community service is a key to many scholarships. Document hours for scholarships.
Volunteer service programs
Attend camps that will strengthen areas for scholarships
Leadership
Sports
Service
Academics (technology, science, math, governor’s school)
- September** Get a strong start in the academics. Keep organized and turn work in on time. Encourage your child to **balance** their schedule with academics, extracurricular activities and “down time”. Know your child and their capabilities to prevent “overload”. Academics are important for college, but a physical activity helps with stress. Help them to think things through for establishing good time management habits.
- Consider signing up to take a preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). It will be for practice only. This is not required and the results will not be forwarded to college until they have taken the SAT or ACT. Junior year is the most important year to take these exams. At that time the scores will be looked at for possible national merit scholarships. Pay for PSAT testing results to see what areas need to be strengthened before taking the SAT. (Practice SAT materials are on line at www.collegeboard.com software programs, and library resources)
- October** Attend the Spotsylvania Towne Center College Fair to become better informed on secular and private colleges, in October.
Visit college representative tables at lunchtime when they come to school throughout the year.
Consider taking the PSAT in October.
- November** Attend a Career Fair. Use your time productively talking to representatives about careers you are considering as a profession.
- March – June** Make an appointment with Mrs. Thomas to select classes for next year. At least one parent must attend the conference. If you have opportunities to visit colleges during trips, etc. take a tour, sit in on some of the classes, talk to students who attend there to get an idea of what “really happens on campus...and off”.

REMEMBER TO DOCUMENT ALL AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES!

JUNIOR YEAR

June – August Consider getting involved in community activities that can be used for career exploration, service work for scholarships or internships for resume building.

August Register for strong academic program for junior year. It is important to remember that you should take courses that are appropriate for learning needs. It is much better to do well in college preparatory classes than to do excellent in lower level courses that do not challenge you. Likewise, if you find that an advanced level course is too challenging even with extra tutoring, it would be wise to talk to Mrs. Thomas and consider taking a course that matches your skill level.

September: First week of September register to take the **PSAT** and a **SAT Prep class**
Become familiar with the information available for college planning from Mrs. Thomas
Pursue community service opportunities and leadership positions
Military Academy applicants need to make an appointment with your guidance counselor to start the college application process.
Start looking for scholarship money through essay competitions

October Take the PSAT. This test determines eligibility for National Merit Scholarships.
Attend Spotsylvania Towne Center College Fair (Oct.) to compare secular, private and Christian colleges and universities.

December Review results of the PSAT; determine weak areas. Practice using SAT practice tests to strengthen weak areas. www.collegeboard.com, software programs, library resources.

January – May Schedule an individual conference with your guidance counselor

Take the SAT in May or June

Start to investigate colleges and narrow down choices

Determine the major that interests you.

Determine what characteristics you are looking for in a college

Use the Internet to explore career inventory and college choices

Make a list of 5 to 10 colleges that fit your description.

Visit the different colleges that interest you:

- Take tour of campus, sit in on some of the classes in the major you are considering
- Make an appointment with the department head of your major to answer any questions about the curriculum of the specific major
- Make arrangement to have a host student from the dorm and spend the night in the dorm. Ask the students all the “real life” questions about college life on that campus.

Get catalogs and application from prospective colleges.

Do Scholarship search to know deadlines and have applications available. Visit these websites:

www.ed.gov; <https://www.fastweb.com/>; www.finaid.org; www.findcollegeaid.com;
www.gocollege.com; www.schev.edu; www.fafsa.ed.gov

Look for financial aid by checking with the colleges you are planning to apply to, the local library, bookstore for scholarship reference books, local organizations, local businesses and internet.

Line up internships and jobs that will help determine career goals

Find service opportunities.

Athletes: Develop a list of schools that have scholarships for your sport and that has your major

- Contact college coaches before your college visits to set up appointment to talk about possible scholarships and observing or scrimmaging with their team.
- Begin making a video for coaches, if they ask.
- Register for a summer athletic camp
- Talk to Guidance Counselor about NCAA deadlines

Pray for Gods’ direction to open the doors at the college He desires for you to attend. Pray for a roommate that will be an awesome Christian friend, a Church to attend, and a Christian fellowship group to hang out with.

SENIOR YEAR

- June – August** Fill out applications and write essays for the colleges you plan to apply. Pick up an informational sheet from your college counselor on how to write college essays.
Talk to persons you plan to ask for college references: school administrators, teachers, employers, pastor.
Continue to search for scholarships.
Work over summer to gain experience in possible career areas.
Set up a calendar with college and scholarship deadlines you are planning on applying to during senior year.
- September** Maintain or improve academic grades during your senior year. College officials look unfavorably upon failing grades and reduced or less rigorous academic loads during your senior year.
Check with the colleges you plan on applying to. See which tests they require for entrance: SAT's, ACT's, SAT II subject tests. Register to take those test required.
Consider taking the SAT improvement class.
Know the general admission and early decision deadline for each college. Update your calendar.
- October- Nov.** Attend Spotsylvania Towne Center College Night (Oct.) to compare secular and private colleges.
Apply to 3 to 5 colleges with different admissions requirements (least selective to more selective). Make sure to fulfill all application requirements.
Retake SAT or ACT tests to try for a higher score.
Continue applying for scholarships
Fill out a NCAA Clearing house Application and let Mrs. Thomas know you need a transcript sent in.
Know all deadlines.
Find out all of your stats for the season and have them sent to the college that interests you.
Gather all family financial information in preparation for filling out the FAFSA financial Aide form for January deadline. Refer to www.fafsa.ed.gov. (Early completion of tax returns is essential for FAFSA information.) Mail in FAFSA
- December** Send all applications, recommendations, SAT scores, and copies of high school transcripts to the colleges before Christmas, unless a college indicates otherwise.
Take the admissions test required by some colleges.
- January** Take the SAT, ACT, SAT II assessment tests if required by the colleges and if not taken previously.
- February** Fill out “Senior **MID – YEAR** Transcript Request Form” to Mrs. Thomas, along with any other information not already forwarded. Some colleges provide forms for this purpose and some do not.
- April – June** Finish the year strong academically.
Keep a record of acceptances and financial aid awards. Make copies for Mrs. Thomas and turn in.
Reply promptly to colleges to notify them of your decision.
Reply promptly when you are notified that you have been awarded a financial aid package. Tell the college whether you are accepting or declining the award.
Meet the reply deadline or you may lose the admission acceptance or financial aid you have earned. Plan summer employment to help defray college costs.

THINGS TO SAVE:

- All test score reports
- Transcripts of high school grades
- Work copy of the FAFSA and all other financial aid forms
- College Scholarship Services acknowledgment form
- Copies of all correspondence sent to or received from schools, including applications and acceptances.

REMEMBER TO DOCUMENT ALL AWARDS, SPECIAL RECOGNITION, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES!

SAMPLE COURSE PLANS

Below are sample four-year plans to use to schedule courses. The first example is a General Diploma. Plan and the second is an Advanced Studies Diploma plan.

Sample General Diploma Four-Year Plan

Class	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Credits Req'd
1	Bible 9	Bible (Man of God or Woman of God and another semester class)	Bible (Apologetics- required)	Bible (2 semester Bible classes)	4 Bible
2	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12	4 English
3	World Geography	World History	U.S. History	Am. Government / Economics	4 Social Studies
4	Earth Science Biology	Biology Earth Science	Chemistry Chemistry 8	Anatomy AP Biology Physics Stop science	3 Science
5	(1)Algebra I (2)Algebra I (3)Algebra I	Geometry Geometry Geometry	Personal Finance Algebra II Algebra II	Stop Personal Finance Algebra III / Trig	3 Math
6	P. E. / Health 9	P. E. / Health 10	Elective	Elective	2 PE / Health
7	Elective or Study Hall	Elective or Study Hall	Elective or Study Hall	Elective or Study Hall	6 Electives
					26 Total Credit

Remember: Academic Classes can also be used as electives to explore more career options or show a stronger transcript.

Electives:

Electives help a student to explore different areas of interest. As you customize a plan, discuss your child's educational and career objectives. If you have questions, please call your students' guidance counselor.

Band
 Dreamweaver/Flash
 InDesign/Photoshop
 Yearbook
 Creative Writing
 Body Strengthening & Conditioning
 Multimedia Training Course
 C++ Programming
 Game Design
 AP Computer Science A

Art I- Foundation
 Orchestra
 Chorus
 Worship Team
 Intro to Drama
 Drama Practicum

Psychology/Sociology
 Art II- Drawing
 Art II - Painting
 3-D Art- Sculpture
 AP Art

Sample Advanced Studies Diploma Four-Year Plan

Class	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Credits Req'd
1	Bible 9	Bible (Man of God or Woman of God and another semester Bible class)	Bible (Apologetics- required)	Bible (2 semester Bible classes)	4 Bible
2	English 9 (Adv. Or Reg. CP)	English 10 (Adv. or Reg. CP)	English 11 (Adv. or Regular CP or AP)	English 12 (Reg. CP, DE or AP English)	4 English
3	World Geography	World History	U.S. History, Adv. U.S. History or AP History	Am. Government / Economics (required) AP U. S. History AP Government	4 Social Studies
4	(1) Earth Science (2) Biology (3) Biology	Biology Earth Science Chemistry	Chemistry Chemistry Physics	Science Elective Physics/AP Biology Anatomy / Physiology DE Chemistry/AP Bio	4 Sciences
5	(1) Algebra I (2) Adv. Algebra I (3) Advanced Geometry Adv. Algebra I (8 th) (4) Adv. Algebra II (5) Adv. Algebra II (Alg. I 8 th grade) (Geometry SS)	Geometry Adv. Geometry & Adv. Algebra II Adv. Algebra II Pre-Calculus Pre-Calculus	Algebra II Pre- Calculus Pre-Calculus Calculus Calculus or AP Cal AB	Algebra III / Trig. Or Statistics Calculus or AP Cal AB Calculus or AP Cal AB AP Cal AB AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC	4 Math
6	PE / Health 9	PE / Health 10	Elective	Elective	2 PE / Health
7	Spanish I	Spanish II Adv. Spanish II	French III or Spanish III Hon. French III or Hon. Spanish III	Elective Hon. French IV or Hon. Spanish IV	3 years of Spanish
8	Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective	3 Electives
					28 Total credits

Remember the more competitive the college, the more they want to see challenging college preparatory, advanced and Advanced Placement classes on your transcript. If you have questions, please call the Guidance Office @ 371-3852.

Remember: Academic classes can also be used as electives to explore more career options or show a stronger transcript for college admissions.

Electives:

Electives help a student to explore different areas of interest. As you customize a plan, discuss your child's educational and career objectives. If you have questions, please call your students' guidance counselor.

Band
Dreamweaver/Flash
InDesign/Photoshop
Yearbook
Creative Writing
Body Strengthening & Conditioning
Multimedia Training Course
C++ Programming
Game Design
AP Computer Science A

Art I- Foundation
Orchestra
Chorus
Worship Team
Intro to Drama
Drama Practicum

Psychology/Sociology
Art II- Drawing
Art II - Painting
3-D Art- Sculpture
AP Art

QUICK REFERENCE OF COURSE OFFERINGS

ACADEMICS

Bible

Bible 9 **Required**
Gospels
Adv Bible I & II (12th)
Man of God (10th)
Woman of God (10th)
Apologetics (11th) **Required**
Daniel/Revelations
Woman of God II (12th)
Man of God II (12th)

English

English 9 (Reg, CP, Adv)
English 10 (Reg, CP, Adv)
English 11 (Reg, CP, Adv)
English 12 (Reg, CP, Adv)
DE English Comp
AP English Lang & Comp
Creative Writing

Social Studies

World Geography
World History
US History
Adv. US History
AP US History
American Government
AP Government
Psychology/Sociology
AP Psychology

Math

Personal Finance
Algebra I
Adv. Algebra I
Geometry
Adv. Geometry
Algebra II
Adv. Algebra II
Algebra III
Statistics
Pre-Calculus
Calculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC

Science

Earth Science (CP)
Biology (CP)
Chemistry (CP)
Physics (CP)
Anatomy/Physiology
AP Biology
DE Chemistry

Foreign Languages

French III
French IV
Spanish I
Spanish II or Advanced Spanish II
Spanish III or Honors Spanish III
Honors Spanish IV

Physical Education

PE/ 9
Health 9
PE/10
Driver's Education
Body Strength/Conditioning
Life Skills

ELECTIVES

Computer Technology

AP Computer Science A
InDesign/Photoshop
Flash/Dreamweaver
Entrepreneur/Life Skills
Yearbook
Multimedia Training Course
C++ Programming
Game Design

Performing Arts

Drama I
Drama II
Improvisation

Music

Choir
Accompanist
Worship Team
Band
Orchestra

Visual Arts

Art I-Foundation
Art II-Drawing
Art III-Painting
AP Studio Art
3D Art-Sculpture

NOTE: CP= College Preparatory, Adv=Advanced, Hon=Honors, AP=Advanced Placement (college level), DE=Dual Enrollment (Germanna Community College credit for Chemistry; Richard Bland Community College credit for English)