

LAKELAND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Secondary Academic Planning Guide

2017 - 2018



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Important: Please Read	3
Advanced Placement Courses	4
Class Rank	4
College Visits	4
Course Failure and Credit Recovery	5
Course Registration Procedure	5
Drop/Add Policy	5
Dual Credit Courses	5
Enrollment Status	5
Grade Scale and Grading Policies	6
Graduation Requirements	7
Homework Policies	9
Junior High Promotion Policy	10
National Honor Society & JNHS	10
Online Courses	10
Requesting Recommendation	11
Senior Policies	11
Testing Program	11
Transcripts	12
Transfer Students	12
Withdrawal from LCA	12

LCA High School Course Descriptions

English	12
Mathematics	14
Social Studies	15
Science	16
Bible	17
Fine Arts & Electives	19
General Electives	20
Physical Education	21
Spanish	21
LCA Online	22

IMPORTANT: Please read

Dear Parents,

The following pages contain course descriptions and academic requirements for students to consider when choosing their courses for the next school year. It is of the **utmost importance** that students fulfill all graduation requirements. Keep in mind that policies, procedures, standardized testing, and course offerings are subject to change at any time.

Our college preparatory program, when diligently followed and successfully completed, will prepare students for just about any college. We are pleased at the extremely high acceptance rate of our seniors to the colleges of their choice. You as parents play a crucial role in your child's career decision-making process. It is impossible for us to give your child the proper guidance without your support and prayers.

We are available to talk to you about the academic program here at LCA, college requirements, and programs that interest your son or daughter. Each student should prayerfully consider God's will concerning course choices and preparation for a career.

Please remember that we are partners in your child's education and will do all we can to be sure your child has the information he or she needs to make these important choices.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Lakeland Christian Academy offers the opportunity for students to take online Advanced Placement (AP) courses through its partnership with Sevenstar. Students taking these classes earn high school credit for the courses and may also earn college credit for these courses if they take and pass the AP exams after taking these courses. Hundreds of colleges accept AP exam results for college credit, but not all do. Therefore, it is important for students to take this into consideration when making a college choice.

AP Courses Offered through Sevenstar

- AP Art History (1 credit)
- AP Biology (1 credit)
- AP Calculus AB (1 credit)
- AP Computer Science (1 credit)
- AP English Language and Composition (1 credit)
- AP English Literature and Composition (1 credit)
- AP Macroeconomics (1/2 credit)
- AP Microeconomics (1/2 credit)
- AP Statistics (1 credit)
- AP U.S. Government and Politics (1/2 credit)
- AP U.S. History (1 credit)
- AP World History (1 credit)

CLASS RANK

Lakeland Christian Academy is a non-ranking school. (However, the top 10% are ranked for purposes of automatic acceptance at all Texas public colleges and universities. LCA uses the weighted GPA to determine class rank and this GPA is recognized as a weighted grade by colleges and universities. Transfer students will be eligible for ranking consideration after four consecutive semesters at LCA.)

LCA will choose the senior with the highest GPA as the valedictorian at Commencement. The senior with the second highest GPA will be declared the salutatorian. Both graduate honors are based on unweighted GPAs.

COLLEGE VISITS

There is perhaps no more important aspect to choosing a college than an actual visit to the college campus. The visit should include the opportunity to stay in the dorm, visit classes, eat college food, and talk to key faculty and admission personnel.

Guidelines for College Visits:

1. Discuss with the Guidance Counselor which colleges have the programs and distinctions you are looking for and prioritize your selection criteria.
2. For sophomores, juniors, and seniors, LCA will treat a college visit as a “field trip” when the LCA College Visit Form is completed in order that that a student is not counted “absent.” Appointments with college personnel must also be made.
3. College Visit should be obtained from the secondary school office and properly filled out and signed by LCA administration, parents, and the admissions office of the college you visited. Upon return to school, this form should be given to the Guidance Counselor so that the visit may be recorded as a college visit day (a non-absence). Note: no form = absence.

It is highly recommended that every junior planning on further education after graduation make at least two college visits. Please do not wait until the senior year to begin looking! We recommend that at least two applications be submitted prior to Christmas vacation during the senior year.

COURSE FAILURE AND CREDIT RECOVERY

A failed required high school course must be repeated until passed. This should be done as soon as possible and may be done by an online course, if approved. Failed elective courses do not need to be repeated if all graduation requirements are met. It is our policy that any course with a grade of “C” or lower may be repeated with the permission of the Principal. In this case, if a student receives a higher grade the second time, only the higher grade will show on the student’s transcript. For any student having academic problems, an appointment should be made with the Guidance Counselor in order to discuss tutoring, summer school, or online make-up coursework. There is a fee for repeating a course online if taken through LCA.

COURSE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

1. After reading this Academic Planning Guide, students and parents should select required and elective courses.
2. For further information, read the course descriptions for both required and elective courses at the end of this Academic Planning Guide. These are arranged by department.
3. A Course Registration Form will be sent home with each student during course registration week. This form should be carefully checked and signed by both the student and a parent and returned to the secondary office by the date listed on the bottom of the form.
4. The Guidance Counselor will assist students in filling out schedule forms. If the Guidance Counselor has a concern regarding a student’s program, parents will be notified.
5. Parents are encouraged to call the Guidance Counselor with any questions they might have concerning course offerings or the LCA diploma program. We welcome your questions and input at any time.

DROP/ADD POLICY

1. During the first three weeks of school, class changes may be made without penalty. However, the student must realize he/she will be responsible for all material taught before he/she enters a class.
2. After the first three weeks of school, a course may be changed only if the Guidance Counselor deems it necessary and the change is approved by the Principal.
3. Continued Failure in a Course: If after the first grading period, a student realizes that he does not have the background necessary to handle a particular course, a comparable course that the student can handle may be substituted with the permission of the teacher, the student’s parents or guardian, and the Principal.
4. A course may not be dropped if it leaves the student with more than one study hall in his adjusted schedule. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the Principal.
5. Students dropping a course after the first three weeks of school may receive a ‘WP’ (withdraw passing) or ‘WF’ (withdraw failing) on his/her transcript for the dropped course, depending on his/her grade at the time of the drop. Please take this into consideration before making a final decision to drop a course.
6. At the beginning of the second semester, ten school days will be allotted for new (semester) course changes.

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

Juniors and Seniors with a GPA of 3.5 or higher may qualify to participate in dual credit courses. These courses are conducted by North Central Texas College. Extension campuses are located at Parker’s Square (Flower Mound) and in Corinth. In most cases, a student would also need to have an 85 average in the previous high school course that corresponds to the course considered. Please see the Guidance Counselor for details. Be aware that students may not skip regular LCA classes (or a major portion thereof) in order to attend dual credit classes. All students must take at least two LCA regular classes each semester.

ENROLLMENT STATUS

Lakeland Christian Academy believes that it is important to maintain the integrity of its academic and spiritual development program. We believe that the best education is a Christian education – while we respect the privilege of

taking dual credit and other alternative coursework, we believe that an LCA diploma must signify that the student has had significant exposure to a Christian worldview. Therefore, we have chosen to restrict some of the alternative educational alternatives to LCA regular classes.

LCA does not enroll “part-time students” (dual home-schooled/regular class students). Besides “Regular Students,” LCA has “Special Case Students” (grades 5-12) and “Dual Credit Students” (grades 11 and 12). Special Case Students are students in unique circumstances, such as elite gymnasts. Their enrollment status and program are determined on an individual basis.

LCA has two types of courses: “regular courses” which meet each school day in a classroom setting with an LCA teacher and “Independent Study (IS) courses” which are supervised by an LCA teacher but involve work and projects different than a regular course and must be authorized prior to starting in order to receive LCA high school credit or recognition. There is a charge for LCA monitoring and record keeping associated with an IS class. Bible courses may not be taken as an Independent Study course but may be taken online, if necessary and authorized by the Principal.

LCA also utilizes two other types of non-LCA delivered courses: “online courses” are produced by an authorized vendor (LCA largely uses SevenStar) and may be taken at school or at home, and may be worked upon any day of the week and any time of the year (usually an LCA staff person oversees the course and administers tests). Online courses are the preferred route for credit recovery. Administrative permission is required prior to taking an online course. A fourth type of course available only to juniors and seniors are “dual credit courses” which are college courses that are also recognized for high school credit. (A three-hour college course usually will be counted as a year of the equivalent high school course.)

LCA will not recognize transfer home school/independent study high school credits unless taken under the auspices of an accredited high school program.

For courses taken online, only LCA authorized programs may be used for high school credit while a student at LCA. Regular Students may take no more than two online or IS courses (or combination thereof) during any semester.

All LCA students must take at least two regular courses from LCA each semester.

All state of Texas requirements must be met to receive an LCA high school diploma. Any exceptions to other LCA graduation requirements must be authorized by the Superintendent.

No student may be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian who has taken less than 75% of their high school coursework in regular LCA classes.

Texas allows home school students to affiliate with a private school for athletic participation. Such home schooled students not part of the LCA high school diploma track may participate as “special athletic case” students.

Students must have earned at least the following number of credits for the listed classification:

Sophomore	6 credits
Junior	12 credits
Senior	18 credits

GRADE SCALE AND GRADING POLICIES

Grading Periods and Progress Reports

There are four grading periods in the regular high school program (nine weeks each). Progress reports will be issued approximately halfway through each quarter for students making a C- or F in any class. Parents are invited to check

with their child’s teacher at any time during the quarter, since parents have continuous access to their child’s grades through Gradelink.

LCA Numerical Grade Scale and Grade Point Scale

A	90 – 100	4.0
B+	87 – 89	3.7
B	84 – 86	3.4
B-	80 – 83	3.0
C+	77 – 79	2.7
C	74 – 76	2.4
C-	70 – 73	2.0
F	69 and below	0

Junior high elective courses are graded on a pass-fail basis.

Weighting of Grades

LCA follows the typical protocol of Texas schools in providing both weighted and unweighted grade point averages (GPA) on high school transcripts. Colleges usually pay more attention to unweighted GPAs for admission purposes, but not always. Weighted grades are based on core academic classes (1.1 weight), advanced math track courses (1.2 weight), and dual credit courses (1.3 weight). Sevenstar online also has some “honors” courses, which also are weighted 1.2.

Our chapter of the National Honor Society looks only at the unweighted GPA in considering the required 3.5 GPA.

Credits and Exams

Yearlong high school courses will receive credit by the semester. Core courses (English, mathematics, science, and social studies) will have semester exams in grades 7-12. Semester grades for core courses will be weighted on a scale that takes 45% of the first quarter’s numeric grade, 45% of the second quarter’s numeric grade, and 10% of the semester exam’s numeric grade and combines them for a final numeric semester grade. The two semesters are then averaged and this final numeric grade will then be converted to a letter grade and figured into the student’s grade point average (GPA).

For non-core courses, there will be no semester exam. Therefore, each quarter grade will be weighted equally at 50% each and calculated for a final numeric semester grade, which will then be converted into a letter grade and figured into the student’s GPA. See page 11 for exam policies relating to seniors.

LCA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following chart outlines the graduation requirements for members of the Class of 2018 and 2019.

	College Prep	Honors College Prep
English	4	4
Mathematics ¹	4	4
Science ²	4	4
Social Studies ³	4	4
Physical Education ⁴	1	1

Languages Other Than English ⁵	2	3
Fine Arts	1	1
Speech	½	½
Electives and Bible ⁶	5 ½	4 ½
Total	26	26

¹Mathematics requirements include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Algebra I taken in eighth grade is accepted for high school credit.

²Science requirements include Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and a 4th Science.

³Social Studies requirements include Geography, U.S. History, World History, Government (1/2 credit), and Economics (1/2 credit). (A student transferring to LCA after 9th grade may have another social studies course substitute for Geography.)

⁴The physical education requirement may be waived through participation of two sports seasons. Such waiver does not reduce the overall number of credits required for graduation.

⁵Two years of the same language. (Two computer courses may substitute.) Honors College Prep requires three years of the same language. (Computer courses may not substitute but may be taken as electives.)

⁶Bible must be taken and passed for each semester at LCA and counts towards needed elective credits.

LCA GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following chart lists the graduation requirements for the Class of 2020 and beyond. Students will enter one of the two endorsements of Arts & Humanities or STEM.

Credit Category	Arts and Humanities	Honors A & H	STEM	Honors STEM
English	4	4	4	4
Mathematics ^{1 and 2}	4	4	4	4
Science ³	3	4	4	4
Social Studies ⁴	4	4	4	4
Physical Education ⁵	1	1	1	1
Languages Other Than English ⁶	2	3	2	3
Fine Arts	1	1	1	1
Speech ⁷	½	½	-	-
Advanced Writing	½	½	-	-
Electives and Bible ^{8 and 9}	6-7	4-5	6-7	5-6
Total	26	26	26	26

¹Mathematics requirements include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Algebra I taken in eighth grade is accepted for high school credit.

²The Honors STEM endorsement requires Pre-Calculus as a 4th math credit. College Math Applications is an acceptable alternative for all other programs.

³Science requirements:

- The Arts and Humanities endorsement requires Biology, Chemistry, and a third science course.
- The Honors Arts and Humanities endorsement requires Biology and Chemistry, plus two other science courses.
- The STEM endorsement requires Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy/Physiology. (Environmental Science may substitute for either the Anatomy/Physiology or Physics course, except for the Honors STEM endorsement.)
- The Honors STEM endorsement requires Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Anatomy/Physiology.
- Dual credit science courses may substitute for any science course except Biology and Chemistry. (However, Advanced Biology or Advanced Chemistry may be taken as additional acceptable dual credit courses.)

⁴Social Studies requirements include Geography, U.S. History, World History, Government (1/2 credit), and Economics (1/2 credit). A student transferring to LCA after 9th grade may have another social studies course substitute for Geography.

⁵The physical education requirement may be waived through participation of two sports seasons. Such waiver does not reduce the overall number of credits required for graduation.

⁶Two years of the same language. (Two computer courses may substitute.) Honors programs require three years of the same language. (Computer courses may not substitute but may be taken as electives.)

⁷Speech is required for the Arts and Humanities program. STEM program students may take a speech test-out option.

⁸Bible must be taken and passed for each semester at LCA and counts towards needed elective credits.

⁹The higher elective number is based on receiving a PE waiver.

The Arts & Humanities or STEM endorsements will be required for the Class of 2020 and beyond. Students who are part of the Class of 2018 and Class of 2019 have the option of entering one of the programs and having their transcripts indicate such.

HOMEWORK POLICIES

Homework is an important part of a student's educational experience. Homework reinforces knowledge and skills being learned and gives the opportunity for the expression of creativity through projects and research papers. However, homework is also controversial and can be a source of frustration if not monitored. Listed below are some of the key policies LCA has adopted regarding homework:

1. Because homework usually involves the reinforcement of material still being learned (formative assessment), teachers may only count the totality of homework no more than 25% of the quarter grade. Exception: a major project that is not formative assessment may be counted as a separate grade from homework.
2. Homework is to be submitted at the beginning or during the class for the date due. Late homework may only be submitted late for the following reasons:
 - Excused absence
 - Submission of a homework pass (if the teacher uses passes)
 - Administrative permission based on extraordinary circumstances
3. Normally a student who is absent will have as many days to submit homework as the number of days absent. Special circumstances may warrant additional time, but a student will not have more than one week from the absence to submit missed homework unless administrative approval is given.
4. A detention may be issued when a student is developing a pattern of coming to class unprepared (e.g., no book, paper or homework for the third or more time during a quarter).

5. Homework will not be accepted for credit following an unexcused absence.
6. A teacher may grade homework based on either the number correct or on effort shown.
7. Homework will be graded and posted within one week of the due date.
8. Teachers may not assign extra credit assignments without administrative approval. Extra credit will not be allowed to substitute for a pattern of not submitting homework.
9. Generally the maximum time spent on homework should equal the grade level times ten minutes (e.g., 7th graders having 70 minutes of homework) with a normal maximum of 120 minutes for students in grades 10-12. Please notify the Guidance Counselor if your child is regularly spending more time on homework than this.

JUNIOR HIGH PROMOTION POLICY

Students who do not pass the second semester in both English and Math and the second semester in at least one of the other core classes (i.e. Bible, Science, History) may be prevented from being promoted to either eighth or ninth grade. Students who do not meet this requirement may be required to repeat the second semester of the required course(s) in an approved summer school program in order to become eligible for promotion. LCA offers make-up online courses for a fee. Students may also avail themselves of non-LCA summer programs if approved in advance by the LCA administration.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AND JUNIOR NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Students do not apply for membership in the Junior National Honor Society and National Honor Society; rather, students are selected on the basis of leadership, service, character, and academics. Membership is granted to those students selected by the National Honor Society Selection Committee in each school. This committee consists of five teachers appointed by the Principal. The National Honor Society advisors do not vote in the selection process. The decision of the faculty committee is final. The Principal or advisor will be glad to counsel any non-selected students and/or their parents concerning the area(s) in which the student needs to improve. It is important to remember that students or parents are not entitled to a hearing before the Selection Committee. Failure to be accorded an honor is not a deprivation of a right, and due process is not applicable to such situations.

NHS Selection Guidelines:

A. Full Time Students:

1. Students must complete at least one year as a full-time student at Lakeland Christian Academy in our regular classroom setting where they can be observed by faculty and peers. Students must have completed their freshman year at LCA.
2. New Senior Admissions: A senior who has accumulated a GPA of 3.5 or higher at an accredited high school and has taken a curriculum that would be classified as honors or college prep shall be eligible to be nominated for the LCA chapter of NHS if the NHS advisor or principal from the former school indicates that the student was slated to be inducted into NHS at that school.
3. A cumulative GPA of 3.5 is required. The names of academically qualified individuals are submitted to the Selection Committee. Those selected will be invited to the induction ceremony.
4. Once inducted, a member must maintain at least a 3.5 unweighted or 4.0 weighted GPA.
5. To be an active NHS member and graduate with NHS distinction, the student must maintain full-time status at Lakeland Christian Academy.
6. Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service may be considered for dismissal from the LCA Chapter of the NHS. This includes any violation of the law or major school regulations (suspension-level offenses) or the accumulation of minor LCA offenses (detention-level offenses). Details may be found in the bylaws of the LCA Chapter of the NHS. Once dropped from membership, the student is no longer eligible to be in the National Honor Society.

ONLINE COURSES

Online courses are available to LCA students through Sevenstar for three scenarios: 1) the student wishes to take a course, such as an AP course, that LCA does not offer in a traditional setting; 2) the student wishes to take a course for

credit recovery; 3) the student wishes to take a course that is offered through the regular program but wishes to take it online for personal reasons. **In scenario 1, there is no extra charge. For scenarios 2 and 3, there is a \$500 online fee besides tuition. Exception: students in the Alternative Program do not pay extra for online courses in scenario 3.** LCA also offers a computer coding class through CodeStream Studios. There is no extra charge for the coding course.

REQUESTING RECOMMENDATIONS

When students ask teachers or administrators to fill out a recommendation for them, there are several courtesies that should be observed.

1. Provide the person with a postage paid envelope (if needed) addressed to the college or scholarship agency to receive the recommendation.
2. Always allow a minimum of one full week before the recommendation needs to be mailed and an additional week for the mail to be delivered.
3. Be sure to complete all requested information before handing it to the teacher or administrator. This usually involves writing your name and signing a release form that you waive your right to see the recommendation. Note: it is unethical to ask someone to write an honest evaluation and then ask to read the evaluation.

SENIOR POLICIES

1. Prior to registering for the senior year, each student should carefully check his/her credits to be sure that he/she has taken and passed all required subjects.
2. Any senior that has failed or is failing a course needed for graduation must make arrangements with the Guidance Counselor to remove the deficiency.
3. A senior that is deficient by one course credit but is in the process of removing that deficiency will be permitted to “walk” through graduation ceremonies. They will receive an empty diploma case until the course is successfully completed. A student deficient in more than one course credit will not be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies.
4. Because American Government and Economics are divided into semesters, any senior who failed American Government at the end of the first semester is required to begin immediately retaking that course through an online course if he desires to graduate with his class.
5. Seniors may earn an exemption from second semester finals based on the following criteria (applies to each academic class):

Semester average grade of 80-85 and no more than two absences
Semester average grade of 86-89 and no more than three absences
Semester average grade of 90-95 and no more than four absences
Semester average grade of 96+ and no more than five absences

6. Prior to any diploma being presented, the Guidance Counselor will certify that all requirements for graduation have been met. No diploma shall be issued without this certification.
7. Graduation speakers: The valedictorian will be the class representative and have the opportunity to give a message at Commencement. The student speech must be provided to the Principal by the start of graduation practice. The Principal reserves the right to edit or even reject any or all of the planned student speeches.

TESTING PROGRAM

Students in junior high are given the Terra Nova assessments, a national standardized test offered through the Association of Christian Schools International. These tests are administered in the spring.

The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) is used by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation as the main factor in selecting National Merit Scholarship finalists (juniors only). This test will be given in the fall and is administered to all students in grades 9-11.

During the junior year, all students should take the SAT or ACT exam at least once. Students in 12th grade should continue taking the SAT and/or the ACT, with the goal of raising their scores to better increase chances for college scholarships. Each major city has at least one appointed test center where the ACT and SAT are administered, and tests are by pre-registration, on designated Saturday mornings.

Performance on the ACT or SAT is important in earning financial aid from colleges. College academic scholarships are usually based on three factors: 1) a student's grade point average, 2) rank in class, and 3) ACT or SAT scores. Many colleges offer academic scholarships on a sliding scale. For example: If a student has an ACT composite of 23, he might automatically receive a \$1,000 grant. If he has a score of 25, he gets \$2,000, a 27 earns \$3,000, etc. Therefore, you can see the importance of trying to get the very highest scores that your child is capable of receiving. It is important for students and parents to stay abreast of the dates for College Board exams. **The Lakeland Christian Academy Code for ACT & SAT exams is 444-158.** This will be needed when filling out registration forms. Registration for the ACT or SAT is done online, not through LCA.

TRANSCRIPTS

Students needing to have a transcript sent to a particular college or scholarship agency should request these through Parchment using the registration code given to them at the beginning of their junior year. There may be a nominal fee for some colleges.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

All questions as to the acceptance of transfer credits meeting LCA requirements should be addressed to the Principal.

WITHDRAWAL FROM LCA

A student who withdraws from LCA during the year will have grades calculated to the point of withdrawal. No credit will be given for enrollment fees or online course fees. Lakeland Christian Academy reserves the right to withhold transcripts and other school records for unpaid tuition and fees. Tuition payments will cease the month after a student withdraws from LCA.

LCA SECONDARY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English

Course title – English 7

Grade level – 7th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to continue building students' language arts skills through grammar, vocabulary building, writing, and literature. Students learn how to write various types of compositions, using good structure and an expanded vocabulary. Critical reading and thinking skills are developed through the study of various types of literature. Major works: *The Hobbit* and *Around the World in 80 Days*, along with various selections from literature.

Course title – English 8

Grade level – 8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to help students learn how to engage in independent, self-selected readings, as well as teacher-assigned readings; read for pleasure, meaning, and thematic analysis in literature; make associations and connections between literature and history concepts; learn to analyze different types of selections

(short stories, novels, biographies, informational literature, and other non-fiction); and increase vocabulary skills. Students are also expected to self and peer edit multiple genres of writing. Students write persuasive compositions, supporting their claims with evidence. Students also practice the skills of summarizing, responding to literature, writing research reports, and other skills relating to their journey towards preparation for high school. In addition, students will study grammar and syntax as a means to increase verbal and written skills. Major works include: *The Invisible Man* and *Swiss Family Robinson*, along with various selections from literature.

Course title – English 1: Fundamentals of Literature & Grammar

Grade level – 9th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to survey quality works of literature from a variety of time periods and cultures. Students will develop relationships between literature, history, and culture. Critical analysis of literature as well as personal interpretation is taught. Students will also learn to critique and analyze literature from a Christian worldview. Basic elements of grammar and writing are emphasized, including basic essay writing. Vocabulary and spelling are a regular feature of instruction as well. Major works include: *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Odyssey*, *Oedipus the King*, *Animal Farm*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and *Great Expectations*.

Course title – English 2: Elements of Literature & Grammar

Grade level – 10th grade

Course Description – This course is designed to survey quality works of literature from a variety of time periods and cultures. Students will develop relationships between literature, history, and culture. Critical analysis of literature as well as personal interpretation is taught. Students will also learn to critique and analyze literature from a Christian perspective. More advanced elements of grammar and writing are emphasized, with vocabulary building toward a college level. Major works include: *Julius Caesar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Inferno*, and *Of Mice and Men*.

Course title – English 3: American Literature & Grammar

Grade level – 11th grade

Course Description – This course is designed to survey four major literary periods in American literature: Early American Literature, American Romanticism, American Realism and Naturalism, and Modern American Literature. Students will learn the relationships among literature, history and culture. Critical analysis of literature as well as personal interpretation is taught. Students will also learn to critique and analyze literature from a Christian perspective. Students will develop the ability to write various types of composition at a college-ready level. Major works include: *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Great Gatsby*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *The Crucible*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*.

Course title – English 4: British Literature & Grammar

Grade level – 12th grade

Course Description – This course is designed to survey four major literary periods in British literature: the Middle Ages (450-1485); the Renaissance (1485-1688); the Age of Revolution (1688-1832); and the Age of Reform (1832-present). Students will learn the relationships among literature, history and culture. Critical analysis of literature as well as personal interpretation is taught. Students will also learn to critique and analyze literature from a Christian perspective. Students will develop the ability to write various types of composition at a college-ready level. Major works include: *Beowulf*, *Mere Christianity*, *Pilgrim's Progress*, and the Shakespearean plays *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Richard III*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *12th Night*.

Mathematics

Course title – Math 7

Grade level – 7th Grade

Course Objectives: This course is designed to give students a strong foundation of the language and tools for middle school mathematics. Students will be able to use direct proportional relationships in percent, geometry, measurement and probability; apply operations with decimals, fractions and integers; use statistical measurements to describe data; and demonstrate understanding of patterns, relationship and algebraic reasoning by formulating and solving algebraic functions and equations.

Course title – Pre-Algebra

Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Objectives: This course is designed to give students a strong foundation and application in preparation for algebra. Students will be able use basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent proportional and non-proportional linear relationships by simplifying algebraic expressions, solving one and two step equations, sequences and inequalities; apply operations with rational numbers (fractions, decimals, percent and integers); convert between fractions, decimals and percent; use probability and statistics to make predictions; and understand geometric measurement and special reasoning.

Course title – Algebra 1

Grade level – 8th/9th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to study the general properties of real numbers and the fundamentals of algebra. Topics covered in the first semester include expressions, equations, functions, properties of real numbers, and solving, graphing and writing linear equations. Students will learn how to solve and graph linear inequalities and systems of linear inequalities. Topics covered during the second semester include applying exponential properties, factoring polynomials, solving quadratic equations, solving radical equations, applying the Pythagorean Theorem and finding probabilities. Throughout the year, students learn the vocabulary of mathematics and logical thinking in real world situations.

Course title – Geometry

Grade level – 9th/10th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to study the properties of points, lines and planes. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the student's ability to think in a logical and orderly manner through deductive reasoning. Beginning with a few self-evident facts, the student will discover and apply other facts related to the study of proofs, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles and congruence. Second semester will continue by applying deduction reasoning for the topics of polygons, similarity and right triangle trigonometry. Also, circles, area and volume will be studied and used to solve practical problems. Algebra skills will be strengthened through review and the application of geometric problem-solving exercises.

Course title – Algebra 2

Grade level – 10th/11th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to build on and expand the elements of Algebra I and Geometry to continue developing the student's understanding of mathematical structure and method. An emphasis is placed on the application of algebraic theory and principles of problem solving. Topics covered first semester include: equations and inequalities functions, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices and determinants, quadratic functions, polynomials, powers, roots and radicals. Second semester topics will include exponential and logarithmic functions,

rational equations and functions, quadratic relations and conics, sequences and series, probability and statistics, trigonometric ratios, and graphs identities and equations.

Course title – Pre-Calculus

Grade level – 11th/12th Grades

Course Description – This course is designed to be a study of advanced algebraic operations and applications, which include polynomial operations, rational expressions, exponents, radicals, linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, absolute value applications, graphs of elementary functions, and non-functions, including inverse functions, combining functions, translating and transforming functions, polynomial functions, zeros of polynomials, rational functions, partial fractions, exponential and logarithmic functions, including graphs and applications, and the Gauss-Jordan elimination of Cramer’s Rule. Topics covered second semester include: trigonometric functions, trigonometric graphs and inverse functions, trigonometric identities, conics, determinate vectors, complex numbers, DeMoivre’s Theorem, inductions and sequences.

Course title – College Math Applications

Grade level – 11th/12th Grades

Course Description – This course is designed to prepare students for the typical college freshman algebra course. Students will review many concepts from Algebra 2, Geometry, Probability, and Statistics. This course also serves as a final review for the SAT and ACT exams.

Social Studies

Course title – World Studies

Grade level – 7th Grade

Course Description – This course provides students with a survey of world history, from the fall of the Roman Empire to the present global community. In addition to major world events, this course provides a study of everyday life and customs throughout history. The three major elements addressed are: 1) culture: the way people have adapted to life circumstances and created societies over time; 2) geography: the impact our physical planet’s characteristics has had upon people groups; and 3) history: the record of how people have lived and what they have accomplished, for good or for evil.

Course title – American History

Grade level – 8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a solid foundational knowledge regarding the heritage and history of this country, from early colonial times to the present. Students will also learn how our country was influenced by Christian principles from its earliest days. By noting the historical examples of those who either decided to follow God’s standards or not, students will see the truth of God in action and appreciate the values and principles that can lead to success, as individuals and as a society.

Course title – World Geography

Grade level – 9th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a survey of the earth’s features, the earth’s resources, the use of earth’s resources, and the geographical and cultural features of the people of the world. This course synthesizes the various elements of geography with a Christian worldview. This course will provide a foundation for further studies in science, history, literature, political science and economics.

Course title – World History

Grade level – 10th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to provide a survey of the major events and personalities throughout world history. An emphasis will be placed on the degree people and leaders followed Christian principles and the consequences that followed in their culture. The three elements addressed are culture, geography and history. Students will develop a sense of how to apply the lessons of history to their lives as future citizens and leaders.

Course title – United States History

Grade level – 11th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a comprehensive survey of United States history. Students will come to understand the reasons for people immigrating to the United States and the struggles Americans have faced during various time periods. An emphasis will be placed upon the choices and decisions of our national and cultural leaders and the consequences upon our society.

Course title – Government

Grade level – 12th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to provide students with an applicable knowledge of the United States government. Students will understand how government is structured, how it works and how as citizens they can contribute to good government. This course will integrate a Biblical worldview into a thorough study of governmental principles, including a comparison with other national governments.

Course title – Economics

Grade level – 12th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to provide students with an applicable knowledge of basic economic concepts. While some elements of personal finance will be included, this course will concentrate on the macroeconomics of both the United States and the global economy. Basic elements of business enterprise will be explored as well.

SCIENCE

Course title – Life Science

Grade level – 7th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce students to the scientific method and general biological facts and principles. Topics include: lab safety, the scientific method, cell biology, genetics, taxonomy, and the classification of living organisms.

Course title – Earth Science

Grade level – 8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce students to the physical and chemical composition of the earth and the interaction of forces of earth and its atmosphere, as well as that of the solar system. Topics include: the physical and chemical makeup of the earth's crust, the changing nature of earth forms, the composition of rocks and minerals, the hydrological cycle, the atmosphere and astronomy.

Course title – Biology

Grade level – 9th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will study organic chemistry, cellular structure and function, biological tissues, and body systems, genetics and classification. Students will also be introduced to the six kingdoms of life, with emphasis upon multi-cellular plants and animals. Students will be taught from a Creationist perspective (but not a young earth position) and will learn the theory of evolution and the many scientific problems associated with Darwinism.

Course title – Chemistry

Grade level – 10th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of the structure and composition of the world God has given us and the changes that matter constantly undergoes. Students start by understanding the special characteristics of elements and compounds. Areas of special study include: physical characteristics of gases, gas laws, molecular composition of gases, states of matter, and ions in aqueous solutions.

Course title – Physics

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to survey the realm of classical physics: forces, movement, mechanics, energy, electricity, magnetism, and optics. In addition, topics in modern physics – relativity, quantum mechanics, nuclear physics – are introduced. This course emphasizes logical problem solving with the application of physics principles. Students will be inspired to see how the physics demonstrates the need for a Designer/Creator of the universe and, especially, earth.

Course title – Anatomy and Physiology

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to help students investigate the structure and function of the human body. Students will use a college-level textbook and labs to explore all the major systems of the human body. This course will help students who are interested in exploring potential careers in the medical and health professions.

Course title – Environmental Science

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to help students understand how science and stewardship of the earth's resources interact. God has given humankind the bounty of the earth for man to use but expects us to care for it. Students will learn about resource management, pollution, erosion, global warming, genetic modification, political/business dynamics, consumer impact and related issues to balancing resource use and needed management/conservation.

BIBLE

Course title – Relationships

Grade level – 7th and 8th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to aid students in their understanding of the dynamics involved with the various relationships they currently have and will possibly have in their future. Principles from the Bible and other spiritual sources will give them the tools to interact with other people and people groups in the many roles they will have in life.

Course title – Old Testament Themes

Grade level – 7th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to help students understand that the Old Testament is more than a collection of stories of the events and people from long ago – that God used people and events to accomplish His purposes. Emphasis will be on how God has continuously reached out to bring people into a redemptive relationship with Him, and how human choices lead to success and failure.

Course title – New Testament Themes

Grade level – 8th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to help students understand the basic themes and doctrines that come from the New Testament. Jesus Christ, God’s Son, revolutionized how we see God and His love for all humans. Students will learn how salvation comes from Jesus’s death and resurrection, and how success in life comes from understanding and applying His teachings and the other teachings from the New Testament.

Course title – Biblical Leadership

Grade level – 9th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to help students understand the dynamics involved with the various principles relating to leadership, especially from a Christian perspective. Students will also examine various examples of leadership from the Bible and other notable leaders of history, including men and women who led great movements.

Course title – Ecclesiastes/Proverbs

Grade level – 9th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is a systematic study of the books of Ecclesiastes and Proverbs. Ecclesiastes is a mysterious book of the Bible, designed to look at the world from an agnostic perspective, until the reader gets to the end and discovers the real purpose of life. Proverbs literally is a list of wise sayings designed to help students understand the principles that make for godly living and success in life. Since this biblical book was written with youth in mind, it contains a treasure trove of spiritual truths that will encourage students to make wise choices in life.

Course title – Evidences for the Faith

Grade level – 10th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the field of study usually called apologetics. Apologetics is literally a rational defense of belief in God and, more specifically, the Christian faith. Students will be introduced to the many evidences and arguments used to defend our faith in God and look at the arguments that atheists and agnostics use as well. Students will be strengthened in their Christian faith as a result.

Course title – Basic Christian Beliefs

Grade level – 10th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to provide students with a systematic understanding of basic Christian beliefs. Topics include: the nature of God, the nature of mankind, the redemption story, sin, angels, heaven and hell.

Because Christians have various views on these topics, sensitivity will be shown in areas of controversy, but the basic position will follow the traditional evangelical faith understanding.

Course title – Ethics

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester

Course Description – This course is designed to teach students the importance of understanding and applying Christian ethics to their lives and for the good of society. Students will first learn that ethics are not created in a vacuum: religious belief and worldview, family values and the culture of our society all deal with the creation of ethics. Students will also see how ethics play a pivotal role in issues such as public morality, abortion, euthanasia, sexual identity/behavior and others.

Course title – Christianity and Culture

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester

Course Philosophy – This course is designed to examine the elements of culture and society and how a Christian worldview and principles should make a difference. Examples from history will demonstrate that sometimes Christians made a powerful positive difference in the culture, and how sometimes “Christians” added to the corruption of a society. Special emphasis will be on the interaction of Christianity and culture in the United States since World War 2.

Course title – Worldview Comparisons

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester (alternate year)

Course Description – This course is designed to instruct students regarding the nature of a Christian worldview and its implications for any society. The premise of the course contends that the Biblical story of Creation, the Fall and Redemption reflects spiritual truth and reality. The implications of worldview, both Christian and humanistic, are explored in topics such as marriage/family, government/politics, science, history and the arts.

Course title – Bible: The Teachings of Christ

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester (alternate year)

Course Description – This course is designed to acquaint students with the teachings of Jesus Christ. Through this study, students will come to understand the unique teachings of our Savior and how His words, though spoken 2000 years ago, still have a powerful claim upon our lives. Students will learn that Jesus taught profound truths, yet usually chose to do so through ordinary stories and simple metaphors and similes. Through this systematic study, students will appreciate how the totality of Jesus’ teachings give us a roadmap for how to live successfully for God.

FINE ARTS

Course – JH Art

Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to help students use the elements and principles of design in order to create expressive, but well-organized, works of art. Focus will be heavily on art history and art from various cultures. Students will be exposed to a variety of both two and three-dimensional materials and mediums, and will also have opportunities to reflect on a biblical worldview in the context of various cultures and artists. Students will also help produce the LCA yearbook.

Course title – JH Band
Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to advance students in developing mastery over their chosen musical instrument. Students will also learn to play various styles of music and learn how subtle differences can be made in playing the same composition. Skill develop in playing with a band section and whole band is a major focus.

Course title – JH Choir
Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to help students develop a mastery of vocal singing skills in a group setting and the development of an appreciation of and passion for music. Music of differing styles and time periods will be used to provide a well-balanced music education.

Course title – Art
Grade level – High School

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of the many forms of art. Students learn basic drawing and rendering skills as well as other artistic expressions. Students will also learn about the history of art and its cultural impact. Like other disciplines, students will see that there are various worldviews represented in art. Students will also help produce the LCA yearbook.

Course title – Drama
Grade level – High School

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a basic understanding of the many forms of drama. Students will learn the many facets of drama, not just acting. A survey of the history of drama will also be given.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Course title – JH Academic Enrichment
Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to 1) assist students who are struggling with one or more academic subjects and 2) create an opportunity for all students to expand their gifts and interests through independent study projects. Those students needing academic help are provided tutoring help with homework. A student who chooses AE for pure enrichment will be encouraged to pursue studies in a variety of ways, based on his/her personal interests. The AE class is not a study hall.

Course title – Advanced Writing
Grade level – 10th- 12th Grade, one semester (paired with Speech)

Course Description – This course is designed to give individualized instruction to students in writing. Instruction will be based on a student’s baseline of writing skills and interests. Special emphasis will be upon writing short stories, non-fiction reports, journalism, opinion essays, and research papers.

Course title – Communications
Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester (paired with Life Skills)

Course Description - This course is designed to introduce students to various aspects of communication such as public speaking, news writing, radio and television broadcasting, video story-telling, and public relations. Students will be able to develop skills in all these areas and learn how to produce a mock newscast for LCA.

Course title – Life Skills

Grade level – 11th/12th Grade, one semester (paired with Communications)

Course Description – This course is designed to help students gain the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful as consumers and participants in the work world. The importance of developing personal identity and work-related skills in key personal relationships will also be explored. Students will also learn about different careers and how to prepare for them, including resume and interview skills. Basic consumer knowledge will also be developed, including banking and basic investing.

Course title – Speech

Grade level – 10th-12th Grade, one semester (paired with Advanced Writing)

Course Description – This course is designed to help students develop public speaking skills, as well as interpersonal communication skills. By understanding and practicing the dynamics of public speaking, student will learn to speak with purpose and clarity in any speaking situation, as well as understand how speech-making can make a powerful positive (and negative!) impact upon society and culture. Much of the focus of the course will be a study of famous speeches in history.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course title – Physical Education

Grade level – 7th/8th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to be more goal-centered than activity-centered, stressing physical activity as a means toward fulfilling personal potential in all phases of life. P.E. is concerned with gaining an overall understanding of muscular activity, using physical activity as a means of protecting and nourishing the bodies that God has given to each of us. P.E. consists of learning and doing through movement, sports, play, fitness and responsible actions.

Course title – Physical Education

Grade level – High School

Course Description – This course is designed to build upon the foundation laid at the junior high level and maintains the philosophy of being goal-centered toward fulfilling personal potential in developing fitness, strength, and stamina. Weight training and running are important aspects of physical development at this level.

SPANISH

Course title – Spanish 1

Grade level – 9th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to give students foundational skills in the language. Students will be introduced to pronunciation rules, basic conversational phrases, and the beginnings of a basic working vocabulary. In addition, students will begin to establish listening comprehension skills and strategies. Students will learn how to

narrate, using the simple present and preterit tenses. Students will also learn information about Spanish and Hispanic culture.

Course title – Spanish 2

Grade level – 10th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to continue language learning and learning various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing. This course also emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills. Students will focus on building their working vocabulary and their speed of comprehension and speaking. They will be asked to generate both written and oral responses to pictures, questions, and scenarios. Creativity and self-expression will be encouraged. Students will learn the imperfect tense and how to narrate more fully on the past, using both the preterit and the imperfect tenses.

Course title – Spanish 3

Grade level – 11th Grade

Course Description – This course is designed to expand the vocabulary and increase both writing and oral communication skills in the Spanish language. There will be daily practice on conversation abilities in a “real world” setting. Students will learn the future, conditional, and perfect tenses and use complex grammar in both written and verbal contexts.

LCA ONLINE

LCA Online provides a solution to meet a variety of educational needs (see sections “ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES” and “ONLINE COURSES”) for details.