

Grace Christian School

2025-2026

High School Course Description Catalog



12407 Pintail St, Anchorage, AK 99516
(907) 868-1203 FAX (907) 644-2261

Grace Christian School admits students of any race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at Grace Christian School. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of our educational policies, scholarship, and financial programs, athletic, and other administered programs.

Grace Christian School reserves the right to admit and retain students on the basis of academic performance, religious commitment of parents and students, philosophical compatibility, and a willingness to cooperate with the Grace administration and abide by the school's policies.

2025-2026 High School Curriculum

Department	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English	English 9: Lit & Composition	English 10: World Literature	English 11: American Literature *AP Language & Composition	English 12: British Literature *AP Literature & Composition Creative Writing
**Math	Algebra I; Geometry	Algebra I; Geometry; Algebra II	Geometry, Algebra II, AP PreCalculus	Algebra II, AP PreCalculus *AP Calculus AB
Science	Biology	Physical Science Chemistry Anatomy & Physiology *AP Environmental Science	Physical Science Chemistry Physics Anatomy & Physiology *AP Environmental Science	Physical Science Chemistry Physics Anatomy & Physiology *AP Environmental Science
Social Studies	Alaska History (1 semester) Health (1 semester)	World History	US History *AP United States History	American Government (1 semester) Economics (1 semester) Psychology (1 semester) *AP United States History
Bible	Bible 9: Old Testament	Bible 10: New Testament	Bible 11: Foundations of the Christian Faith/Marriage & Family	Bible 12: Biblical Worldview/ Comparative Religions
World Languages	American Sign Language 1 German 1 Spanish 1	ASL 2 German 2 Spanish 2	ASL 3 Spanish 3	ASL 4 Spanish 4
Fine Arts	Art Concert Band Choir Theatre Arts Percussion Ensemble (audition) Vocal Ensemble (audition) Jazz Ensemble (audition) Publications (application)	Art Concert Band Choir Theatre Arts Percussion Ensemble (audition) Vocal Ensemble (audition) Jazz Ensemble (audition) Publications (application)	Art Concert Band Choir Theatre Arts Percussion Ensemble (audition) Vocal Ensemble (audition) Jazz Ensemble (audition) Publications (application)	Art Concert Band Choir Theatre Arts Percussion Ensemble (audition) Vocal Ensemble (audition) Jazz Ensemble (audition) Publications (application)
Technology	Computer Science Essentials	Computer Science Essentials	Computer Science Essentials	Computer Science Essentials
Physical Education	.5 PE credit can be earned by participating on GCS athletics teams		Weightlifting	Weightlifting
Electives	Teacher's Aide	Teacher's Aide Study Hall (no credit) Creative Writing	Life Skills Teacher's Aide Student Internship Program Study Hall (no credit) Creative Writing *Weightlifting can be an elective	Life Skills Teacher's Aide Student Internship Program Study Hall (no credit) Creative Writing *Weightlifting can be an elective

**To enroll in AP classes, students must be eligible by meeting prerequisites and securing a positive recommendation from teachers in the same department as the desired AP class is in. The AP committee will meet and make final decisions.*

*** Math Placement is based upon qualifying test scores, final math grade, and teacher recommendations*

Graduation Requirements

Course	Credits	Required Class(es)
English	4	English 9 & American Literature (or AP Language & Composition) - Required by the state of Alaska + 2 more English courses
Mathematics	3	Algebra 1 / Geometry + 2 more math courses
Science	2	Biology + 1 more science course
World History	1	
US History	1	Required by the state of Alaska
Alaska History	.5	Required by the state of Alaska
Health	.5	Required by the state of Alaska
American Government	.5	Or AP Government - Required by the state of Alaska
History Elective	.5	Economics and Psychology (.5); AP Human Geography (1 credit)
Fine Arts	1	
Electives	7.5	
Bible	1 credit per year enrolled at GCS	
PE	.5	.5 PE credit can be earned by participating on GCS athletics teams
TOTAL REQUIRED:	22* +Bible Credits	

**One credit equals one year of study ; .5 credit equals a semester length class*

High School English Program

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English 9: Literature & Composition	English 10: World Literature	English 11: American Literature	English 12: British Literature
	Speech & Debate	Speech & Debate <small>*Elective this year- not an English credit</small>	Speech & Debate
	Creative Writing <small>*Elective not an English credit</small>	Creative Writing <small>*Elective not an English credit</small>	Creative Writing
		AP Language & Composition*	AP Literature & Composition**

*Recommended for junior year

**Recommended for senior year

Grayed classes indicate class is not offered this school year, will be offered 26/27 sy

English Department

Developing minds and imaginations to comprehend and communicate Christ and His Word.

LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 9
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)

This novel/memoir-based survey of literature will introduce students to a wide variety of prose, drama, and poetry. Grammar will be taught through imitation of great writers with the intent of mastery in student writing. Students will compose essays and creative pieces in response to literature and will compose a formal research essay addressing and proposing solutions for a real-world problem. Students will read novels and nonfiction selections each quarter and will participate in oral projects including poetry memorization, declamatory speeches, and original persuasive speeches.

WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: English 9 or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results
Textbook: *World Literature* (McDougal Littell)

English 10 is a college preparatory course with a world literature emphasis, exploring diverse texts that have shaped human thought and culture. Students engage in literary analysis, examining themes, characters, and historical context through responsive writing. They develop skills in argumentative essay writing, as well as prewriting, drafting, and editing. Weekly grammar and vocabulary practice reinforces language proficiency. The course also strengthens speaking and listening skills through multimedia presentations, discussions, and speeches, including declamation. By fostering critical thinking and strong writing abilities, this course prepares students for future academic success.

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (subject is specifically required for graduation)

Grade: 11
Prerequisite: English 10 or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results
Textbook: *American Literature* (BJU Press); and Supplemental American Novels, stories, and news articles

English 11 is a college preparatory class. This course studies the development of American literature from the 15th century to the present. Students write a variety of essays in which they analyze techniques appropriate to writing situations. Students are required to organize and complete a research paper in preparation for college writing. Grammar and vocabulary are integrated throughout the program to strengthen reading and the writing process. Students participate in the declamatory competition. In addition, many of the quizzes, testing practices, and/or essays will prepare students for standardized testing. American Literature is a required course for graduation.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW IN LITERATURE: ENGLISH TRADITION (British Literature)

Grade: 12
Prerequisites: English 11 for returning students or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results
Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell) and supplemental novels and plays

This college preparatory class focuses on Biblical themes found in British Literature, incorporating works from different eras. Students write a variety of analytical and reflective essays in which they analyze literary techniques and respond to Biblical themes rooted in the literature. They also write a literary research paper with an annotated bibliography. Students engage in creative and reflective writing and practice speaking skills through involvement in speeches (declamatory competition), formal and informal presentations, and Socratic discussion.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 11
Prerequisites: English 10 with a grade of “A” or teacher recommendation and completion of AP English 11 required summer reading
Textbooks: The course uses “anchor texts” selected from classic American works, including *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark

AP English will study a wide range of American Literature with an emphasis on identifying the author's purpose and style, as well as recognizing and explaining the rhetorical and argumentative choices used. Students will write in response to careful critical analysis of both nonfiction and fiction literature. The requirements and workload will be similar to college classes, so students should consider their overall academic and activity load before committing to this class. A student with a high score on the AP Exam may receive college credit from most universities/colleges and may be placed into a second- semester college course, waiving the introductory English course. In addition, many of the essays will be timed in-class essays to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam in May. **(This course meets the graduation requirement of the American Literature course).**

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: AP English Language and Composition with a grade of "B" or better or an "A" in English 11 or teacher approval based on an interview and a writing sample; students must also complete required summer reading.

Textbook: *Norton's Anthology of English Literature*, M. H. Abrams; *Writing About Literature*, Edgar V. Roberts; Shakespearean tragedy and comedy, selected Romantic era and Victorian novels, and carefully chosen contemporary novels as well as poetry from various eras.

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Though the course focuses on AP standards of analysis and argumentation, students are also challenged to evaluate literature through a Biblical lens. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. Though we will read widely and study representative works from various eras and genres, students will become intimate with a few works through discussion, analysis, essays, imitative composition, and assessments. For formal essays we will work through the writing process, including teacher and peer feedback for revision of multiple drafts to craft a refined composition, whether creative or expository. In addition, many of the assignments will be timed in-class essays to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

SPEECH AND DEBATE **Not offered 2025/2026- will be offered 2026/2027**

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisites: B or better in 9th grade English

Textbook: *The Argument Builder*, Shelly Johnson; *Classical Rhetoric*, Jim Nance; various units from National Speech and Debate Association

Speech and Debate is a year long college preparatory course that will help students understand that Speech is a gift from God as well as an important life skill. Through Speech and Debate, students will learn that they can accomplish tasks, enhance education and careers, share the love of Christ, and build relationships with God and others. As a part of speech students will study fundamental terms, principals, and concepts of communication. Additionally, students will prepare speeches through research, cutting, rough drafts, and peer reviews. Debate encourages an intelligent approach to controversial issues, increases understanding of opposing viewpoints, and enables students to have well reasoned and supported arguments. The class will focus on Lincoln-Douglas debates, Policy debates, Extemporaneous Speaking, Extemporaneous Commentary, Informative Speaking, and Original Orations to compete in ASAA tournaments throughout the first semester. Students will also spend time in the area of apologetics. They will form and solidify testimonies, learn how to share the Gospel, and how to reach different audiences with the Word.

*Speech and Debate may be used as an elective credit or an English credit. It may replace 10th grade or 12th grade English. This class cannot be used to satisfy the American Literature requirement for graduation (11th grade English/AP Lang).

CREATIVE WRITING

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

Textbook: Varied short story readings, published scripts, and one novel.

Students will read, analyze, critique, write, workshop, and rewrite as part of the writing process. Writings include dramatic scenes, creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, drama, and screenplay. Daily journaling is a requirement. Students will integrate art into the writing process, and will complete a writer's portfolio. This course may be taken more than once.

High School Science Program

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Biology	Physical Science*	Physical Science*	Physical Science*
	Chemistry	Chemistry	Chemistry
	Anatomy & Physiology	Physics	Physics
	GAMO (Geology, Anatomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)	GAMO (Geology, Anatomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)	GAMO (Geology, Anatomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)
	AP Environmental Studies	Anatomy & Physiology	Anatomy & Physiology
		AP Environmental Studies	AP Environmental Studies
		AP Biology (Offered an alternating years)	AP Biology (Offered an alternating years)
		AP Chemistry (Offered an alternating years)	AP Chemistry (Offered an alternating years)

*Physical Science does not count as a lab science

Grayed classes indicate class is not offered this school year, may be offered 26/27 sy

Science Department

Marveling at God's amazing revelation of Himself through the diligent study of His creation.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: Math: Geometry or higher
Textbook: *Exploring Creation with Advanced Biology*, 2nd Ed. (Apologia)

Anatomy and Physiology is the study of the structure and function of the human body including cells, tissues, and organs. It will cover the following systems: circulatory, digestive, endocrine, lymphatic, respiratory, skeletal, muscular, nervous, reproductive and special senses from a Biblical worldview. This class is hands-on and includes labs.

BIOLOGY

Grade: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Biology*, 6th ed (BJU Press)

Biology is a one-year course that introduces the student to the structures and functions of living organisms. It is an exciting journey into the macroscopic and microscopic world including a study of biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, ecology, and current topics affecting our daily lives. Students will be involved in research and laboratory activities that prepare them for future science courses. Emphasis is placed on thinking about science from a Biblical perspective and discussing why the Christian worldview matters when engaging the life sciences.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: Biology
Textbook: *Physical Science*, 6th ed (BJU Press)

Physical science is a research based science course that introduces students to chemistry and physics. The students will cover four units (two for chemistry and two for physics) that will introduce students to the key elements of study for physical science. Chemistry units include matter (what it is and how it interacts in chemical reactions), nuclear changes, solutions, and acids and bases. In the physics units, students will learn about how matter and energy move and why they move as well as the different forms of energy. Students will read case studies, participate in mini-labs, discuss ethics and worldview, and learn to think critically from a biblical worldview.

CHEMISTRY

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: C or better in Algebra I
Co-Requisite: Algebra II
Textbook: *Chemistry - Matter and Change* (McGraw-Hill Glencoe)

Chemistry is called the "central science" because it provides the background required for all other science and technology courses. It is a year-long college preparatory class that provides extensive problem solving and laboratory experiences. Mental maturity and persistence are required to grasp many of the abstract concepts in chemistry. Students must have good organizational and study skills as well as a firm grasp of Algebra I. It is required that the student has a C or better in Algebra I before taking Chemistry. Algebra scores are a better indicator of success in Chemistry than Biology scores. A scientific calculator such as the TI-84 or TI-86 is required.

PHYSICS

Grades: 11-12
Co-Requisite: Precalculus
Textbook: *Physics, 3rd Edition* (Bob Jones)

Physics is a year long, college preparatory class that will introduce students to the main concepts of classical physics including mechanics, wave mechanics, optics, electricity, and magnetism and will briefly explore modern physics (relativity, radioactivity, etc.). Class discussions, demonstrations, and lab experiments will reinforce physical concepts. All topics explored will include mathematical reasoning and justification in order to enhance student understanding. A graphing calculator such as the TI-84 or TI-86 is required.

GAMO (Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, Oceanography) Not offered 2025/2026- will be offered 2026/2027

Grades: 10-12

Textbooks: *The Changing Earth: Exploring Geology and Evolution 7th* (2015), Monroe & Wicander, Cengage

Pathways to Astronomy 6th (2021), Schneider & Army, McGraw-Hill

Essentials of Meteorology 8th (2018), Ahrens & Henson, Cengage

Oceanography: An Invitation to Marine Science (2022), Garrison & Ellis, Cengage

This course will explore different specialized scientific systems within the larger field of science: Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, and Oceanography. The purpose of this course is to educate students in such a way that they gain a broader scientific understanding of the ways in which God designed these different dynamic systems to interact with each other and affect our planet. The course includes weekly in-class laboratory activities.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Grades: 10-12 (College-level course)

Prerequisites: 10th-12th grades, enrolled in Algebra II or higher

Textbook: *Environmental Science for the AP® Course*, 3rd Ed, Friedland & Relyea (Bedford, Freeman, & Worth Publishers)

Advanced Placement Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary lab course that focuses on ecological processes, human impacts on the Earth, and how to resolve or prevent natural and human-made environmental problems. Students develop their understanding of the interrelationships of the natural world through hands-on experience in the form of completing lab investigations and field work as they explore concepts like energy transfer, interactions between earth systems, interactions between different species and the environment, and sustainability. Students who take this course are expected to be able to apply scientific concepts, principles, and methodologies to real-world examples and problems. In the spring, the AP Examination will be offered. A student with a high score on the AP Exam may receive college credit.

AP BIOLOGY- Not offered 2025/2026- will be offered 2026/2027

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: B in Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II, and most recent English.

Textbook: *Biology for the AP Course*, 1st Ed (BFW Publishing)

Advanced Placement Biology is a year-long course designed for students that have a strong interest in, or desire to pursue a career in the sciences. The AP Biology course introduces students to topics covered in a freshman biology course at the university level, including, biochemistry, cytology, physiology, ecology, and evolutionary theory. To succeed in AP Biology students must be highly motivated to learn. Reading requirements for the course are rigorous and require a daily commitment. Exams generally cover 3-4 chapters in the text and occur every 2-3 weeks. Laboratory activities are conducted to give the student a representation of a university level biology course. In the spring the AP examination will be offered. A student with a high score on the Advanced Placement exam can receive college credit from most colleges.

High School Math Program

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Algebra I	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II
Geometry	Geometry	Algebra II	AP Precalculus
	Algebra II	AP Precalculus	AP Calculus AB

* Math Placement is based upon qualifying test scores, final math grade, and teacher recommendations

Math Department

Preparing students to enjoy and appreciate God's design, order and steadfastness through integrating biblical and mathematical principles.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 2 with a passing grade or administrative review, for new students, a satisfactory score on the high school mathematics entrance exam.

Textbook: *Algebra 1 with CalcChat & CalcView (2022)* Larson

Common Core academic standards

Course content will focus on linear functions, with an introduction to exponential and quadratic functions. Strong emphasis on applications and connections to other academic disciplines. It builds on concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra 2. Scientific calculator required.

GEOMETRY

Grades: 9-10 Prerequisite: Algebra 1 with a passing grade or administrative review; Algebra 2 may be taken concurrently with counselor approval.

Textbook: *Geometry (2018)* McGraw Hill

This is Euclidean Geometry (Study of points, lines, planes, and solid figures) with proofs. We will study logical arguments, rigid transformations and symmetry, relationships between and within triangles, right triangles and trigonometry, similarity between polygons. We will understand circles with chords, tangents, inscribed angles, and the equation of a circle. We finish with an extension of area and volume of 2-D and 3-D shapes. Scientific calculator required.

ALGEBRA 2

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 with a grade of C or better or administrative review; Geometry may be taken concurrently with counselor approval.

Textbook: *Big Ideas Math Algebra 2*, Cengage

Common Core academic standards

A continuation and extension of Algebra 1. Concepts include quadratic, polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, radical, and rational functions, with an emphasis on graphing transformations, factoring expressions, and solving complex equations. Scientific calculator required.

AP PRE-CALCULUS

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry, both with a B or better.

Textbook: *Precalculus with Limits: A Graphing Approach 7e (2016)* Larson

Common Core academic standards

AP Precalculus is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college precalculus course. AP Precalculus provides students with an understanding of the concepts of college algebra, trigonometry, and additional topics that prepare students for further college level mathematics courses. This course explores a variety of function types and their applications—polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polar, parametric, vector-valued, implicitly defined, and linear transformation functions using matrices. Throughout the course, the mathematical practices of procedural and symbolic fluency, multiple representations, and communication and reasoning are developed. Students experience the concepts and skills related to each function type through the lenses of modeling and covariation and engage each function type through their graphical, numerical, analytical, and verbal representations (The College Board 2023).

Students should consider their overall academic load and extra-curricular activities before committing to this class. Suggested daily after school commitment is 45 - 75 minutes, 4 days a week. Graphing calculator is required. Suggested calculator: TI-84 (silver ed, or CE).

A completed summer review packet is required for entrance to the course.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Precalculus with a grade of B or better

Textbook: *Calculus of a Single Variable AP Edition, 11th edition (2018), Larson & Edwards (Brooks/Cole)*

Advanced Placement Calculus AB is a college-level course roughly equivalent to Calculus 1 (first semester college calculus) in college. A student with a high score on the Advanced Placement exam will receive college credit from most universities/colleges and will usually be placed into a second semester college calculus course, Calculus 2. This AP course is devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. It includes concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. (The College Board 2016).

Students should consider their overall academic load and extra-curricular activities before committing to this class. Suggested daily after school commitment is 45 - 75 minutes, 6 days a week. Graphing calculator is required. Suggested calculator: TI-84 (silver ed, or CE).

A completed summer review packet is required for entrance to the course.

High School Social Studies Program

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Alaska History (1 semester) Health (1 semester)	World History	US History	American Government (1 semester)
		AP Government* (Full Year) AP US History	Economics (1 semester)
			Psychology (1 semester)
			AP Government* (Full Year) AP US History

*AP Government & AP US History are offered an alternating years
Grayed classes indicate class is not offered this school year, will be offered 26/27 sy

SOCIAL STUDIES

Instilling a love of history by understanding people, places, cultures, and events and by recognizing God's hand in them.

ALASKA HISTORY (Graduation requirement .5 credit)

Grade: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Aunt Phil's Trunk* (Dowing-Bill)

Alaska History is a course that focuses on Alaska's rich history and the many factors that helped make it into the great state it is today. Unit studies will include geography, culture, economy, history, and government of Alaska. Each of the units of study will have current event issues/topics that will be discussed. Upon the conclusion of this class students will have gained knowledge that will help enable them to be productive, God honoring, active community members in our state.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: None
Textbooks: *World History Interactive* (Savvas)

This year-long survey course of history from the first early river valley civilizations through World War II—with an emphasis on Western Civilization—is designed to provide an overview of major events and themes in world history and to help students see God's hand moving throughout history to fulfill His plan for the world. Students will be required to think, read, and write critically, which will include research and project development, and to participate in academic conversations with fellow classmates. Emphasis is placed on historical skill development such as sourcing, contextualization, claim testing, causation, comparison, and evaluating continuity and changes over time. This year-long survey course covers history from the earliest river valley civilizations to World War II, with a particular focus on Western Civilization. The course aims to provide an overview of significant events and themes in world history, while helping students recognize God's presence in guiding historical events to fulfill His plan for the world.

Students will be expected to think critically, read thoughtfully, and write effectively. This will involve conducting research, developing projects, and engaging in academic discussions with their teacher and classmates. The course places special emphasis on developing historical skills such as sourcing, contextualization, claim testing, causation, comparison, and evaluating continuity and changes over time.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (Graduation requirement, 1 credit)

Grades: 11
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *United States History. 5th Ed* (Bob Jones University Press)

US History is a one year course examining the events, people and places that have shaped the nation and our Christian heritage. We will look at events from the discovery of the North American continent to the present. We will emphasize the forces and events that affected the everyday lives of ordinary people—along with presidential elections, foundations of our government, wars, and the building of industrial empires. A special emphasis will be given to the cause and effect of events because, "History shapes people, and people shape history."

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (Graduation requirement, .5 credit)

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *McGruder's American Government* (Prentice-Hall)

This course is designed to render an understanding of the foundations of American government. Time is spent on both the beginnings and historical development of the American democratic experience. Special emphasis is given to matters of checks and balances, the three branches of government and their function, special interest groups & lobbying, and the influence of public opinion. Students will address current events in today's society. Students are encouraged to read newspapers, weekly news magazines, listen to news radio, watch news programs, etc. Classroom discussion is expected in this course.

PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Understanding Psychology* (McGraw Hill)

This course examines various topics such as the life span, sensation and perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, theories of personality, psychological disorders and dealing with stress in our lives. One outcome of General Psychology should be the realization of the complex nature of God's creation in the form of human beings.

ECONOMICS

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Understanding Economics* (McGraw Hill)

This course will focus on how economics functions as an integral part of government policy and its role in relation to individual interests associated with our daily lives. Subjects examined in some detail include: capitalism and the market economy, supply and demand, measuring economic performance, sources of capital, budget, and trade deficits, and economic problems facing developing nations.

AP US HISTORY (odd years)

Grade: 11-12
Prerequisite: A in History and English
Textbook: *America's History* (BFW Publishers)

This college level course is an introduction to the approaches, techniques, and sources historians use in drawing meaning from the past in contextualizing the present. It is important to remember that the discipline of history is a way of interpreting data and a way of critical thinking about it. Students will be required to read both secondary and primary resources. They will be encouraged to work on critical reading, writing, and speaking skills. Our objective is to understand not only what happened but also why it happened. History does not occur in a vacuum! Students will learn to identify bias in writing and separate fact from opinion. Students will be encouraged to develop a critical perspective based on logic, careful analysis, reading, and thinking. Although there is little to be gained by rote memorization of historical data (names, dates, documents, events, battles, etc.), a student must know these details as a resource to draw upon factual knowledge IN ORDER to exercise analytical skills intelligently. One must argue their thesis with facts vs. an opinion that is unsubstantiated. The course will emphasize a number of **themes** throughout the year to encourage students to think conceptually about the American past and to focus on historical change over time. These themes include the following topics: American Diversity, American Identity, Culture, Demographic Changes, Economic Transformations, Environment, Globalization, Politics and Citizenship, Reform, Religion, Slavery and Its Legacies in North America, and War and Diplomacy. (This course meets the graduation requirement for US History).

AP U.S GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (even years) **Not offered 2025/2026- will be offered 2026/2027**

Grade: 11-12
Prerequisite: A in History and English
Textbook: *American Government: Stories of a Nation* (Waples)

The AP U.S. Government and Politics is an in-depth look at the government of the United States that includes a study and evaluation of the political system. The course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation for how the US government works and how it influences American citizens. This course will allow students to understand how their active participation in our political system is essential to its survival. This course will require students to work at an accelerated level, and the opportunity to prepare for the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam. (This course meets the graduation requirement American Government).

BIBLE

Reveling in God's Word to know Him more and to make Him known.

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Grade: 9
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

Students begin their journey through scripture by exploring God's plan of redemptive history for his own glory through the Old Testament books (Genesis-Malachi). Students are introduced to large narrative and theological themes of scripture that challenge their worldview to be built on a foundation of God's word alone and a thriving relationship with the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: 9th Grade Bible
Resource: *ESV Bible*

Students complete their journey through scripture as they explore the grand narrative and purpose of each of the New Testament books (Matthew-Revelation). As they do so, they are taken to the next step of inductive Bible study, getting hands on with observations, interpretations, and applications of scripture that challenge their faith in Christ on a deeper level.

FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

Grade: 11 (1 semester)
Prerequisite: 9th and 10th Grade Bible
Textbook: *ESV Bible, Fundamentals of the Faith (Moody Publishers), Christian Beliefs (Wayne Grudem)*

This is a one-semester course designed to introduce students to the central doctrines of the Christian Faith. Theological ideas are introduced in a systematic and holistic way with a view toward forming a comprehensive biblical worldview. With this class, students will receive a theological foundation that will challenge and deepen their understanding of God, the Bible, and the good news of the gospel; and will prepare them to adequately defend and articulate their faith.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Grade: 11 (1 semester)
Prerequisite: 9th and 10th Grade Bible
Resource: *ESV Bible*

This is a one-semester course designed to inform the next generation as to the wisdom God gives for relationships. Students will be challenged to make informed and intentional decisions in regard to personal character, purity, and marriage amidst a cultural context that rejects the wisdom of God. Studies include personal identity and character, friendships, courtship and dating, marriage and family.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

Grade: 12 (1 semester) **Graduation requirement**
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

This course helps students to shape their lives around the teaching of Scripture. Students study a variety of worldviews that they are likely to encounter in college and society in general. Students will learn to think critically about what they believe and develop a specifically Biblical Worldview.

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS

Grade: 12 (1 semester)

Prerequisite: None

Resources: *Christianity, Cults and Religions* (Rose Publishing); *Christian History Made Easy*, Timothy Jones; *Denominations Comparison* (Rose Publishing); ESV Bible

This course teaches students the basic perspectives of the World's major religious systems. Students will learn the history, fundamental tenets, and modern perspectives of the major world religions. Students will also learn how to respond, as a believer, to those lost in other religious worldviews.

FINE ARTS

Experiencing God's creativity by discovering, strengthening, expressing and revealing the creative gifts and talents of His people.

CHOIR

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Willingness/ability to sing

Concert Choir is a performance ensemble that provides students with an opportunity to learn about music through the study of the choral art. Students will study music reading, music theory, a variety of styles of music, and historical context. Through this study, students will develop an understanding of music's role in Christianity and the Christian walk. As a part of the performance ensemble, participation in ASAA Competitive events as well as evening concert performances throughout the year is mandatory. Traveling performance opportunities are available in this class.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Audition with director; some music reading skills; before and/or after-school time for rehearsals

Vocal Ensemble is a course designed to provide students with a unique and challenging musical opportunity in the development of advanced part singing. Ensemble members will study music appropriate for small ensemble singing and perform at all scheduled GCS vocal concerts as well as participate in regional/state festivals. Participation in all scheduled rehearsals and performances will be mandatory. Traveling performance opportunities are available in this class.

CONCERT BAND

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Demonstrated ability with musical instrument and reading music. Interview, audition and/or private lessons may be required for students new to the program.

Textbook: *Concert Band Binder*
Habits of a Successful Musician, S. Rush
Pathways to Success S. Rush, T Lautzenheiser

Concert Band is a performance based class designed to teach music through an instrumental ensemble. Students will prepare repertoire from a variety of styles for performances at public concerts, festivals, and contests throughout the year. Attendance at rehearsals and evening performances are vital components of this course and are therefore mandatory. Students are responsible to provide their own instrument and keep it in good working order. This ensemble is comprised of traditional concert band instruments*. In and out of state travel opportunities are available in this class.

(*Guitars - including bass - are not considered traditional band instruments, and drummers will be expected to play keyboard and battery percussion.)

JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisites: Interview and/or audition
Textbook: *Habits of a Successful Musician*, S. Rush
Pathways to Success S. Rush, T Lautzenheiser
Real Easy Book
Jazz Ensemble Binder

Jazz Ensemble is a performance based class designed to teach music through an instrumental ensemble. Students will prepare repertoire from a variety of styles including jazz, funk, Latin, and pop for performances at public concerts, festivals, and contests throughout the year. Attendance at rehearsals and evening performances are vital components of this course and are therefore mandatory. Students are responsible to provide their own instrument and keep it in good working order. This ensemble is composed of traditional jazz band instruments* unless approved by the director before enrollment. In and out of state travel opportunities are available in this class.
(*Saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar/upright, piano/keyboard, drums/percussion .)

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: Interview and/or audition
Textbook: *Percussion Ensemble Binder*
A Fresh Approach Series Mark Wessels
Pathways to Success S. Rush, T Lautzenheiser

Percussion Ensemble will cover all the primary aspects of the modern percussion ensemble including rudimental drumming, marching percussion, orchestral percussion, African, Afro-Cuban, and Brazilian drumming, along with melodic percussion such as the vibraphone and marimba. Students will prepare repertoire from a variety of styles for performances at public concerts, festivals, and contests throughout the year. Attendance at rehearsals and evening performances are vital components of this course and are therefore mandatory. In and out of state travel opportunities are available in this class.

ORCHESTRA

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisites: Two years of playing a string instrument, or demonstrated ability and reading music. Audition and/or private lessons may be required.
Textbook: *Habits of a Successful String Musician*, S. Rush, C. Selby
Pathways to Success S. Rush, T Lautzenheiser

Orchestra is a performance-based class focused primarily on the string family. Students will prepare repertoire from a variety of styles for performances at public concerts, festivals, and contests throughout the year. Attendance at rehearsals and evening performances are vital components of this course and are therefore mandatory. In and out of state travel opportunities are available in this class.

ART

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None

Students work with drawing in several mediums: graphite, charcoal, pastels - oil and chalk. They will also participate in painting with watercolor, acrylic, ink, printmaking, and mixed media. Students will work with additive and subtractive techniques with mediums such as clay. Art vocabulary and aesthetic scanning are taught in conjunction with learning about the Elements and Principles of Art.

THEATRE

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisites: none
Textbook: *Introduction to Theatre Arts*, Suzi Zimmerman

Theatre is a two-semester course designed to introduce high school students to elements of a theatre production. Students will learn basic history of the theatre, stagecraft, and acting skills in improvisation, monologues, and scene work. Students by the end of this course should possess a working knowledge of character development using body, voice, and imagination.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Equipping students to complete the Great Commission (see Matt. 28: 19-20) through language acquisition and cultural understanding.

SPANISH 1

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *¡Avancemos 1! Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

The Spanish 1 course is an introduction to Spanish that provides a foundation in the four language skill areas of listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Basic grammatical structure, vocabulary, and culture are gradually and systematically taught, reviewed and practiced. Basic grammar such as articles, adjectives, nouns, pronouns and possessive adjectives are covered. Students will also study conjugation of regular and irregular verbs in the present, present progressive and past tenses.

SPANISH 2

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: *Avancemos 1* with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: *¡Avancemos 2! Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

Spanish II is a continuation of Spanish 1, with an emphasis on the preterit, imperfect, future, conditional, imperfect progressive, present perfect, and imperative tenses. We continue to build on basic grammar structures and learn the proper use of pronouns, the comparative and superlative as well as demonstrative adjectives. Students will also learn to talk about their faith in Christ while sharing their personal testimony. Second semester lessons are conducted in Spanish.

SPANISH 3 and 4

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: Spanish 2 (or 3) with a grade of a C or higher
Textbook: *¡Avancemos 3 y 4! Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

Students will gain fluency in Spanish through extensive vocabulary building, advanced grammar study, reading, writing, and listening to native speakers. Students will engage in conversational Spanish, read from Spanish Literature and discuss a variety of topics as well as read and comment on current events in the Spanish speaking world. Students will present a culture project, prepare and share speeches, discuss Latin American issues, and continue to discuss their faith in Christ. Lessons are conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak in Spanish with one another.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, ASL 1

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Text Book: *Signing Naturally Units 1 - 6 Ella Mae Lentz / Ken Mikos / Cheri Smith*

Students will acquire the skills necessary to converse in Sign Language. Emphasis is on grammar, vocabulary, Deaf history and conversational practice. Participation in class and presentations in ASL and some written assignments on Deaf culture and History and Computer access are required.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, ASL 2

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: American Sign Language 1 with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: *Signing Naturally Units 7 - 12*

Students will continue with *Signing Naturally Units 7 - 12* selected video viewing with comprehension checks. Some written assignments will be required as we continue to study Deaf history, culture and deaf individuals in history and pop culture. We will be requiring some outside of the classroom participation in Deaf events in our community. Computer access required.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, ASL 3

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: American Sign Language 2 with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: Signing Naturally Level 2

Students in ASL 3 will be following this advanced textbook and will be required to interpret some simple to more complex videos from English to ASL and from ASL to English this will be a self paced class emphasizing on efficiency and fluency of the language. Computer access required.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, ASL 4

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: American Sign Language 3 with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: Signing Naturally Level 3

Students in ASL 4 will be following this advanced textbook and will be required to interpret some simple to more complex videos from English to ASL and from ASL to English this will be a self paced class emphasizing on efficiency and fluency of the language. Computer access required.

GERMAN 1

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Deutsch echt einfach A1* (Klett)

German I is an introduction to the German language and culture. Students will develop basic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as explore German culture and geography. Through interactive lessons, students will gain practical language skills for everyday communication and deepen their understanding of German traditions and customs. There will be ample opportunity to practice conversational skills in small-group settings, so that students gain confidence and the language comes alive. Correct grammar and pronunciation will be reinforced by simple scripture memory.

GERMAN 2

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: German I with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: *Deutsch echt einfach A2* (Klett)

German II builds on the foundations established in German I, further enhancing students' proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing. This course will introduce more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary, allowing students to engage in deeper conversations and explore a wider range of topics. Correct grammar and pronunciation will be further reinforced by scripture memory.

Students will participate in interactive activities that promote active communication, such as role-plays and group discussions. By the end of the course, students will feel more confident in their language abilities and be able to navigate everyday situations in German.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fostering the enjoyment of lifelong physical activity and training the Christian to approach health, fitness and competition biblically.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students may receive a .25 credit for participation in a Grace high school sport. Students may only receive a maximum of .5 credits from sport participation, meeting the GCS PE requirement.

HEALTH

Grade: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Health* (Bob Jones University Press)

The purpose of this class is to present the Bible as the foundation for a healthy lifestyle. In a quest for total health, we will cover physical, mental, social, and spiritual health. Studies will include Christ-centered self-esteem and values, fitness, nutrition, diseases and disorders, medicines and drugs including tobacco, alcohol, and illegal substances, and basic first aid. Students are graded on tests, quizzes, projects, and homework.

WEIGHT LIFTING

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: None

This course introduces the basics of weight training. Emphasis is placed on developing muscular strength through proper lifting techniques. Upon completion, students should know the skills and techniques of weight lifting such as powerlifting, exercises, breathing, spotting and safety procedures in addition to increasing their own personal muscular strength throughout the year. The student will also learn about various areas related to weight lifting such as human anatomy and physiology, nutrition, stretching, fitness and health.

ELECTIVES

Training students in today's life skills and technology so they can honor God with these abilities.

LIFE SKILLS

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: none

Preference given to seniors, this course introduces a variety of valuable life skills. Topics covered include finances (tithing, budgeting, taxes, investments, check writing, and balancing), home economics, college and career skills, electrical and plumbing, outdoor skills, First Aid and CPR, and automobile basics. Students will be required to participate in hands-on projects, and field trips, and will learn from a variety of guest speakers. Childcare unit using "Realbabies" (simulated dolls).

PUBLICATIONS

Grades: 7-12
Prerequisites: Teacher approval with application and recommended teacher references as requested by the teacher. Students should maintain a B average in all classes, be exceptional workers, willing to learn, quick to follow instructions, and glorify Christ in all things. Possible interview required. This class satisfies a fine art credit requirement.

**Course capped at 12 students and application required by end of April 2025.*

The creation of the school's yearbook is the primary focus of Publications class. Course content includes writing, photography, ad sales, yearbook sales, design layout, journalism ethics, publishing criteria, and development of computer skills.

TEACHER'S AIDE

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None

Students assist teachers in elementary and secondary classrooms, staff offices, or in the library. Students will be assigned various tasks depending on their placement. Each student will be assigned to one teacher for the entire year. Students may carry only one Teacher's Aide course per year and must be self-motivated, responsible, flexible, and mature enough to work through potential conflicts.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: Administrative approval only

Available to Juniors and Seniors only. The Student Internship Program is a cooperative arrangement between the school and internship supervisor. The student will receive vocational training in a profession of their choice. The internship will be supervised by the school coordinator and the internship supervisor. The experience will contribute to the student's education and employability.

COMPUTER SCIENCE ESSENTIALS

Grades: 10-12
Corequisite: Geometry
Prerequisite: B or higher in Algebra I
Textbook: CodeHS

The year-long Computer Science Essentials course at Grace Christian School introduces students to the fundamentals of computer programming, with a focus on developing logical thinking and problem-solving skills grounded in a Christian worldview. Students will start their journey with Python programming, learning to design, code, and test their programs while applying relevant mathematical concepts. As they progress, they will advance to more complex programming topics, including functions, strings, data structures, file input/output operations, and object-oriented programming. Throughout the course, students will reflect on how their faith informs their understanding of technology and its ethical implications, preparing them to be responsible digital citizens.

This course utilizes a blended classroom approach, combining fully web-based content with personalized instruction. Students will write and run code directly in their browsers, using the tools and resources provided by CodeHS to maximize classroom time and receive focused one-on-one attention from teachers. Each unit consists of engaging lessons that include video tutorials, short quizzes, example programs for exploration, and practical programming exercises, culminating in over 120 hours of hands-on programming practice.