



HOLY SPIRIT
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Junior High School Course Catalog

2015-2016

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Course Course Description

English 7	This course focuses on a foundation of the understanding of the English Language. In this course, students are given the opportunity to develop and refine their writing and reading comprehension skills in a workshop setting. Through the study of the writing process, students will produce writing that is focused, organized, and well developed, using research and technology to support their work. Students will also develop critical thinking skills through roundtable inquiry discussions based on literary and non-literary works read throughout the year. In order to support students' understanding and use of the English language, grammar and vocabulary instruction is integrated within the context of each thematic unit.
Accelerated English 7	This course focuses on a foundation of the understanding of the English Language and is intended for motivated writers. In this course, students are given the opportunity to develop and refine their writing and comprehension skills in a workshop setting. Through the study of the writing process, students will produce writing that establishes an appropriate organizational structure, sets a context and engages the reader, maintains a coherent focus throughout, and provides a satisfying conclusion. Students will also develop critical thinking skills through roundtable inquiry discussions based on literary and non-literary works read throughout the year. In order to support students' understanding and use of the English language, grammar and vocabulary instruction is integrated within the context of each thematic unit.
English 8	This course focuses on the continued study of the writing process and aims to advance students' writing in a way that it demonstrates a more mature and complex analysis of readings across the curriculum. Students will learn to use research and analysis to strengthen their writing across every discipline and will demonstrate understanding and control of the rules of the English language. Using shared inquiry, students will delve deeper into literary texts, identifying and discussing themes as well as literary techniques. Vocabulary instruction is integrated within the context of each thematic unit and incorporates the study of Greek and Latin roots and affixes.
Accelerated English 8	This course focuses on the continued study of the writing process and aims to advance students' writing in a way that it demonstrates a more mature and complex analysis of readings across the curriculum. Students will learn to use research and analysis to strengthen their writing across every discipline and will demonstrate understanding and control of the rules of the English language. Using shared inquiry, students will delve deeper into literary texts, learning to communicate their ideas and opinions in a variety of written and spoken forms. Students in this course will engage in analysis of more challenging texts and will produce writing that integrates more sophisticated structures and techniques. Vocabulary instruction is integrated within the context of each thematic unit and incorporates the study of Greek and Latin roots and affixes.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

<u>Course</u>	<u>Course Description</u>
HS Greek I	<p>Using Athenaze, 2nd Edition, Book I, students will work through Chapters 1-7. They will be introduced to the ancient Greek language, as well as the culture and mythology of the classical age (5th century BC) of Athens. Language: Students will learn the present tense, active and middle voice, of regular, epsilon-contract, and alpha-contract verbs, first, second and third declension nouns, adjective-noun agreement, and the rules governing Greek accents. By the end of the year, students will have mastered a vocabulary of about 220 words in ancient Greek. Culture: They will learn about the daily life of a typical 5th century BC Athenian farm family. Mythology: They will learn about the rise of the Olympian gods and goddesses and will read selected stories about each of the major deities. They will also begin reading in Greek stories from Homer's Odyssey. Christianity: Students will memorize the Lord's Prayer in the original Greek and will begin to read easy passages from St. Luke's Gospel. Eighth grade student placement in this class is contingent on the approval from the Classics Department Chair.</p>
JH Latin I	<p>Students will learn the vocabulary, grammar, and culture covered by the first 15 chapters of <u>Ecce Romani Book I</u>. They will learn about the life of a typical patrician Roman family living in the first century of the Roman Empire. Language: Students will learn how to conjugate indicative verbs and decline 1st, 2nd, and 3rd declension nouns and adjectives. They will write simple sentences and answer comprehension questions about paragraphs and stories. By the end of the year, students should be able to recognize over 200 vocabulary words & phrases. Culture/History: Students will be able to discuss ancient Roman attire, households, entertainment, practices such as slavery, and features of the city of Rome. Mythology: Students will be able to match the Greek Olympians with their Roman counterparts. They will be able to tell the foundational stories of Rome and of its early heroes. Christianity: Students will pray the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be, and they will learn to sing several parts of the Mass.</p>
JH Latin II	<p>This is a continuation from JH Latin I, picking up at Chapter 16 of <u>Ecce Romani Book I</u> and continuing through Chapter 25.</p>
HS Spanish I	<p>This introductory course is designed for students with little to no Spanish language background. This course which will incorporate many components including use of the online textbook Supersite and grammar tutorials. Topics covered include conjugation of verbs in the present and present progressive tenses, greetings, numbers, ser v. estar, direct object pronouns, present and preterite tenses, reflexive verbs, double object pronouns, prepositions, superlatives, and cultural information about Cuba, Peru, Guatemala, and Chile, Spain, Ecuador, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. Students will also read various poems and song lyrics. Students will take the National Spanish Exam.</p>

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Course Course Description

Pre-Algebra	This course reinforces and builds upon mathematical skills taught in previous classes with additional advanced computation, including an emphasis on algebraic concepts. Students will study fractions, decimals, percents, positive and negative integers, and rational numbers. Students will be introduced to algebraic symbolism, simplifying expressions, solutions to elementary equations, and the graphic representations associated with variables. They will become more proficient in using ratios, proportions, and solving algebraic equations. Students will develop and expand problem solving skills in order to solve word problems and to think creatively and analytically.
Introduction to Algebra	In Introduction to Algebra, students will learn the foundations of problem solving, algebra, and geometry. There will be an emphasis throughout the course on the development of the abstract reasoning skills needed for success in Algebra I. Students will be introduced to the basic algebraic topics, including rational numbers, exploring real numbers, graphing functions, and exploring polynomials. Students will also learn to use proportion and percent, apply proportional reasoning, be introduced to statistics and analyzing data, and will explore number patterns. Students will be introduced to the basic geometric topics of investigating patterns, using area and volume. Students will also investigate discrete math and probability.
HS Algebra I	High School Algebra I is a bridge from the concrete to the abstract study of mathematics. This course introduces basic algebraic skills in a logical order, including relations, functions, graphing, systems of equations, radicals, factoring polynomials, rational equations, probability and statistics, and quadratic functions. It emphasizes practical methods of solving first- and second-degree equations and inequalities. This course emphasizes the language, concepts, and techniques that will prepare students to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. Skills taught in the course lay groundwork for upper level math and science courses and have practical uses in everyday life.
HS Accelerated Algebra I	This accelerated high school course, incorporating the consistent use of real numbers and a problem solving approach, emphasizes the principles of algebra, including algebraic symbolism, simplifying complex expressions, solutions to linear and quadratic equations, and graphic representations associated with variables. Students will apply algebraic representations to word problems and analyze the nature of changes in linear and non-linear relationships. Skills taught in the course serve as a bridge from the concrete to the abstract study of mathematics, lay groundwork for upper level math and science courses, and have practical uses in everyday life.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course Course Description

Life Science 7	Life Science encompasses who we are, the substances of which we are made, how these components work together, and how living organisms interact with each other. The wonder of God's creation is all around us, and the better we understand it, the better we understand ourselves and our Creator. This course will explore the basic characteristics, necessities, building blocks, and processes of life as well as the whole organisms with which we share this Earth. Topics include the scientific method, characteristics of living organisms, ecology, evolution, classification of organisms, ecosystems, and environmental issues.
Accelerated Life Science 7	The Accelerated course covers the same topics as Life Science 7 but goes further in depth and includes more challenging assignments.
Physical Science 8	Physical Science is divided into two disciplines: physics and chemistry. This course will explore the concepts of matter, energy, motion, forces, electricity and magnetism, atomic structure, bonding, and reactions.
Accelerated Physical Science 8	The Accelerated course covers the same topics as Physical Science 8 but goes further in depth and includes more challenging assignments. The Accelerated course also relies more heavily on mathematics and the application of equations to solve problems.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Course Course Description

World Cultures 7	<p>This course will introduce students to a number of non-Western civilizations. The four main regions taught over the course of the year will include the Middle East, Africa, East Asia, and Latin America. The class will cover the historical, religious, and cultural aspects of the people of these regions, and offer students a better understanding of their impact on the world. Students will also be given a basic geographic understanding of the regions in which these civilizations developed. Map exercises, movie clips, topical discussions, lectures, presentations, and weekly reading assignments will be employed to help the students better grasp the subject matter. The goal of this course is to present the history and cultures of non-Western peoples from pre-history to the modern day.</p>
Accelerated World Cultures 7	<p>This course will introduce students to a number of non-Western civilizations. The four main regions taught over the course of the year will include the Middle East, Africa, East Asia, and Latin America. The class will cover the historical, religious, and cultural aspects of the people of these regions, and offer students a better understanding of their impact on the world. Students will also be given a basic geographic understanding of the regions in which these civilizations developed. Map exercises, movie clips, topical discussions, lectures, presentations, and weekly reading assignments will be employed to help the students better grasp the subject matter. Students will be introduced to historical essay writing throughout the course. The goal of this course is to present the history and cultures of non-Western peoples from pre-history to the modern day.</p>
United States Survey 8	<p>This course will offer a study of our history as Americans from the colonization era up to the Cold War. Throughout the course, there will be lessons on politics, economics, law, religion, growth and minority struggles in the United States. A focus will be to connect and explain contemporary U.S. policies in light of their historical context. Each unit will begin with exploration of the contemporary theme by way of news and journal articles, historical context, activities and simulations. These will ground the students in an understanding of how history led to current policy. The goal of this course is to present the history of the United States and gain an understanding of how the American identity developed.</p>
Accelerated United States Survey 8	<p>The Accelerated course covers the same topics as United States Survey 8 but goes further in depth and includes more challenging assignments.</p>

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

<u>Course</u>	<u>Course Description</u>
7th Grade Theology: The Life of Grace	The Life of Grace: This course introduces students to the basic truths of the Church, with an emphasis on the story of salvation history and on the practical aspects of living our Catholic Faith. To prepare students for the Upper School curriculum, students commit selected scriptures to memory and learn to employ traditional theological nomenclature. As students explore the connections among theology, other disciplines, and current events, they discover sophisticated lines of inquiry that will be nurtured in the theology courses of the eighth through twelfth grades.
8th Grade Theology: Sacred Scripture	Sacred Scripture: This course provides in-depth study of Sacred Scripture, the Word of God written down through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and handed down through the generations to us today. Students examine the Books of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, which make up the greater story of Creation, God's saving plan for mankind, and how He prepares us properly to receive the salvific gift of his Son. Through reading and writing-based exercises as well as participating in class discussions, group projects and presentations, students discover, explore, and identify what Christ's teachings mean and learn to apply and articulate the Faith, particularly sourced in Sacred Scripture.

ELECTIVE

<u>Course</u>	<u>Course Description</u>
Junior High Survey Course	The junior high specials course includes a variety of courses that will rotate on a quarterly basis. This year the course will include rotations in (1) physical education, (2) dramatic arts, (3) visual arts, and (4) study skills.