

WEST SHORE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

UPPER SCHOOL
ACADEMIC HANDBOOK

**ACADEMIC YEAR
2016-2017**



INTRODUCTION

To our seniors, welcome to your final year of high school. We pray you will finish your high school career in a positive fashion and that you will seek the Lord's will for your life after graduation.

To our juniors and sophomores, understand that your example is being watched carefully by underclassmen. Your impact on them may be significant. "Walk worthy of your calling!"

To those of you entering your first year of high school, welcome to 9th grade where you are beginning your high school career.

As you choose your classes and curriculum for the coming school year, seek God's guidance and will. The Psalmist says, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord" (Psalm 37:23). He will direct you and lead you in the right choices as you seek His will for your school days.

The following considerations are offered as you choose your classes and curriculum for the coming school year. We encourage parents and students to think through these together.

1. **How much should you learn?** The overall premise is that it is good for you to learn as much as possible in order to be fully prepared to live a life of submission and useful service to God. At this point in your education it is wise to consider the overall picture, not just what you want. During this year you will be making some significant choices as you continue to be "sharpened." God uses sharpened tools. Proverbs 14:23 says, "All hard work brings a profit."
2. **What courses do freshmen take?** Freshmen are required take a Bible course, an English course, a history course, a science course, a math course, and foreign language class (Spanish). It is recommended that each student take a physical education class. Some students may choose to participate in choir, band, orchestra, Art, or Yearbook. Finally, the elective period may offer some additional opportunities for more specialized courses in certain areas of study as well as study/tutoring.
3. **What courses do sophomores take?** Sophomores are required take a Bible course, an English course, a history course, a science course, a math course, and foreign language class (Spanish). It is recommended that each student take a physical education class. Some students may choose to participate in choir, band, orchestra, Art, or Yearbook. Finally, the elective period may offer some additional opportunities for more specialized courses in certain areas of study as well as study/tutoring.

4. **What courses do juniors take?** Juniors are required take a Bible course, an English course, a history course, a science course, and a math course. The physical education may have been met by now, but a health class is still required. Other electives are available so that the student carries a full credit load.
5. **What courses do seniors take?** At a minimum, Seniors are required take a Bible course and English course. The health requirement needs to be met by the senior year. Other electives and dual-enrollment courses will be scheduled to complete a full-time course of study.
6. **How will my course selections fit in with graduation requirements?** A certain number of credits are required in each subject area for graduation. You should choose your courses with the purpose of attaining the required number of courses in Bible (4 credits), English (4 credits), Math (3 credits), Science (3 credits), History/Social Sciences (3 credits), Physical Education/Health (1 credit), Foreign Language (2 credits), Winterim courses (2 credits), Service (1 credit), and electives (4 credits). High school students are promoted as follows: 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ credits to enter 10th grade, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to enter 11th grade, and 19 to enter 12th grade and 27 to graduate.
7. **How are high school credits determined?** High school credits will be issued on a semester and yearly basis, depending upon the nature of the course. This means that a student's first and second quarter grades in a class will be combined with the semester exam to establish a first semester grade. For one semester courses, a student who passes a will receive .50 credit (for most subjects). For full year courses, 1.0 credit will be accrued by passing the course for the whole year. If the student does not pass a course, (s)he will be required to make up that credit (if the course is needed for graduation) by repeating the course, taking it in summer school, or through on-line learning.
8. **How are AP courses different from regular academic courses?** AP courses equate to a first year college level course; therefore students may earn college credit for the course upon achieving a qualifying score on the AP Exam. AP courses involve a rigorous level of reading, writing and critical thinking. AP exams are given at the end of the course.
9. **What is the difference between dual enrollment and dual credit?** Dual enrollment refers to a student being enrolled in high school and college at the same time. West Shore Christian Academy has established a relationship with Messiah College which allows qualifying juniors and seniors to take course from Messiah on their campus (schedule permitting), online (summer), or on the WSCA campus (typically 1-2 per semester). Students can earn credit for a high school and college transcript. **Dual credit** refers to courses approved by select colleges/universities to receive college credit, but are taught and managed by

WSCA. We currently work with Colorado Christian University, Indiana Wesleyan University, and Cairn University.

10. How can I change my course selections? Students and parents should consider course selection carefully so that schedule changes rarely occur. The time to drop and add a course is during the first **three** (3) weeks of each semester for all courses. If you withdraw after the drop/add time, it will remain on your record as W/P (withdrew/passing) or W/F (withdrew/failing).

11. What is the school's grading system?

Letter	Percent	GPA	Weighted GPA for Honors	Weighted GPA for AP
A	95-100	4.0	4.0-4.7	4.7-5.0
A-	93-94	3.7	4.0	4.3-4.7
B+	90-92	3.3	4.0	4.3
B	87-89	3.0	3.3-3.7	4.0
B-	85-86	2.7	3.0-3.3	3.7-4.0
C+	82-84	2.3	2.7-3.0	3.3
C	79-81	2.0	2.3-2.7	3.0
C-	77-78	1.7	2.0-2.3	2.7
D+	75-76	1.3	2.0	2.3
D	73-74	1.0	1.7	2.0
D-	70-72	0.7	1.0-1.3	1.7-2.0
F	0-69	0.0	0.0-0.7	0.0-1.3

REQUIRED COURSES

BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT II (9th) TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

This core Bible course focuses on a survey of the Old Testament prophets (Elijah-Malachi). Emphasis is placed upon the fundamental role and theological contribution of the prophets along with modern relevancy of a life dependent on God. The class reaches into the New Testament to introduce John the Baptist and the fulfillment of God's promises in the person of Jesus Christ. Special attention will be given to Isaiah, Daniel, and Zechariah, focusing on a basic understanding of prophecy and how it applies to today's world.

NEW TESTAMENT I (10th) TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

This core Bible course focuses on the New Testament Gospels, studied in chronological order from Christ's baptism to His ascension and the beginning of the Church in Acts 1-7. Emphasis is placed on the works of Jesus Christ for us in His faithfulness, death, and resurrection that alone justifies believers and reconciles us with God. We will explore the opportunities for trust that Jesus provides for us every day if we chose to follow after Him.

NEW TESTAMENT II (11th & 12th in AY17) TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

This core Bible course focuses on the New Testament epistles, Romans through Revelation while using Acts chapters 8-28 as the historical and narrative backdrop. Students will learn the literary structure, purpose, and theme of each New Testament epistle. Emphasis is placed upon the understanding and proper application of basic doctrines and the relevancy of a lifestyle of trusting God.

TWCMI (12th in AY18) TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

This core Bible course, Theology, Worldviews, and Contemporary Moral Issues (TWCMI), focuses on a systematic study of theological concepts and issues, including: Theology proper, bibliology, world religions, cults, and engaging contemporary moral issues from a biblical worldview. Emphasis is placed upon the development and application of critical thinking skills so that students will build confidence in defending their Christian faith while building bridges into the lives of people of other faiths.

ENGLISH

AMERICAN LITERATURE (9th) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

Students will examine both nonfiction and fiction texts written in America by Americans examining the nation's voice as it develops from the early American settlers to present day modern Americans. Throughout the course students will determine what it means to be American, as well as evaluate the process that Americans have taken to establish an identity over the years by examining: informational materials, advertisements, prose both fiction and nonfiction, and poetry. The student will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to use proper grammar, specific vocabulary words, and various writing skills. The student will also be able to recognize various thematic, figurative, poetic, and dramatic devices used in a broad range of literary genres. Students will also learn over 300 vocabulary words and how to use them.

Note: Honors available (requires additional readings and writing/research assignments).

Prerequisite: 8th Grade English

BRITISH LITERATURE (10th) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

Why do we do what we do? Everyone likes to see themselves as the hero of their own story, but we have also experienced that time where we were the villain. In this course, we will explore the heroes and monsters that inspired our English language ancestors to compose love poems and elegies, epics, dramas, novels, political pamphlets and speeches. By the end of the year, students will have tracked the ideological development of the British Isles as reflected in its speeches, journals, poetry, prose, and drama. They will understand how to analyze documents to understand the author's purpose and be able to put those skills to use in their own writing—all from a Biblical perspective. Students will also learn and use about 300 vocabulary words.

Note: Honors available (requires additional readings and writing/research assignments).

Prerequisite: 9th Grade English

AMERICAN LITERATURE (11th in AY17) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

Primarily through readings of noted great American novels, this course is designed to introduce you to a wide variety of literature from the period of colonization in America to the mid-20th century. Naturally, we will become familiar with the historical and cultural circumstances surrounding the production of a given piece of literature, and also explore the development and expression of some fundamental ideas--assumptions, myths, and beliefs--that still influence the ways Americans think about themselves and their society. In addition to examining the historical and ideological contexts of a range of prose, poetry, and fictional works, we will closely examine their aesthetic dimensions and practice ways of identifying variant themes and rhetorical strategies. Additionally, students will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to use proper grammar, specific vocabulary words, and various writing skills. The student will also be able to recognize various thematic, figurative, poetic, and dramatic devices used in a broad range of literary genres. Students will also learn over 300 vocabulary words and how to use them.

Note: Honors available (requires additional readings and writing/research assignments).

Prerequisite: 9th and 10th Grade English

BRITISH LITERATURE (12th in AY17) ONE SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

As a single-semester course, this British Literature survey course is designed to introduce students to the clash of arms, ideas, and passions that led to the evolution of English language and culture. Starting with the poetry of the Anglo-Saxon Vikings, students will read various forms of British literature including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama, in order to analyze the author's purpose. Thus, they will track the ideological development of the British Isles as reflected in its speeches, journals, poetry, prose, and drama. Students will also learn about 300 vocabulary words and how to use them. In addition, the students will analyze themes from a Biblical perspective. The students will write responses to their readings and analysis.

Note: Honors available (requires additional readings and writing/research assignments).

Prerequisite: 9th , 10th, and 11th Grade English

SENIOR CAPSTONE (12th) ONE SEMESTER (2nd) CREDIT: .50

The Senior Capstone consists of (1) weekly assignment (research), (2) a MLA formatted research/reflection paper, and (3) an oral & visual presentation. The paper provides the student with an opportunity to engage in focused research on a topic of their choosing. In most cases, the topic allows the student to pursue concentrated study in an area of particular significance, often times concerning potential vocational aptitude/interest, biblical uncertainties, and contemporary cultural/social issues. The project will also create artifacts that will trace where students have been academically and spiritually, where they are now, and where they intend to be in the future. As a result, it will document the level of excellence achieved in the academic, technical, and biblical curricula and demonstrate the integration of all these areas into a truly Christ-centered worldview.

CREATIVE WRITING (Elective) ONE SEMESTER (1st) CREDIT: .50

Whether you know it or not, you are an author. This course is intended to inspire and equip any budding author with the tools necessary to create, craft, and publish works of fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. We will observe the skills of published authors and learn from their craft. Responding to writing prompts and workshops, students will hone their own writing and collaborate to making their pieces strong. Finally, we will learn the steps to editing, revision, and publication for the 21st-century world.

Prerequisite: 8th Grade English

WESTERN MYTHOLOGY (Elective) ONE SEMESTER (2nd) CREDIT: .50

In the words of J. R. R. Tolkien, "We have come from God, and inevitably the myths woven by us, though they contain error, will also reflect a splintered fragment of the true light, the eternal truth that is with God. Indeed only by myth-making, only by becoming 'sub-creator' and inventing stories, can Man aspire to the state of perfection that he knew before the Fall." Likewise, students in this course will study the myths from Ancient Greece and Rome, Scandinavia, Britain, and France. We will use those stories to understand the pain and longing that drove the original storytellers to create. Then we use that new understanding to look at our world today—and craft our own stories.

Prerequisite: 8th Grade English

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the 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, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. Prerequisite: Departmental Approval. **Available in AY17.**

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns with introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which require students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods. Prerequisite: Departmental Approval. **Available in AY18.**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH I

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

Spanish 1 is an introductory course of the Spanish language. Students will master the basic phonics and pronunciation of the language. Students will learn how to conjugate the various verb forms in –ar, –er, and –ir endings within the present tenses. The teacher will integrate a balanced focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills throughout all phases of instruction. Students will be required to apply their knowledge through the use of basic grammatical structures and vocabulary. Students will be encouraged to compare and contrast what they learn about Hispanic culture with their own, thereby learning to think critically and progress towards a more mature vision of the world.

SPANISH II

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

Spanish 2 is a course of study that will build upon the grammatical foundations established in Spanish 1. It will emphasize the correct usage of the present, present progressive, preterit, and imperfect tenses. The importance of conjugating verb tenses correctly and forming sentences using correct syntax will be highly stressed. The teacher will integrate a balanced focus on listening, reading, and writing skills throughout all phases of instruction; however, more emphasis will be placed on conversational speaking.

Prerequisite: Spanish I

SPANISH III

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

Spanish 3 students will have the opportunity to perfect and fine tune the Spanish skills learned in Spanish 1 and 2. There is a review of Spanish grammar and syntax as well as the acquisition of more advanced grammatical concepts. Students will be required to apply their knowledge through spoken, written, and listening activities and authentic assessments. Students will develop their writing capabilities as well as continue ear training and conversational Spanish. Several short novels and/or short stories by Hispanic authors will be read.

Prerequisite: Spanish II

SPANISH IV

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1.00

Spanish 4 students will have the opportunity to perfect and fine tune the Spanish skills learned in Spanish 1, 2 and 3. There is a review of Spanish grammar and syntax as well as the acquisition of more advanced grammatical concepts. Students will be required to apply their knowledge through spoken, written, and listening activities and authentic assessments. Spanish 4 students will not only study the important Hispanic influences on the United States, but also study the history and cultural development of Spain, Central America, and the Caribbean countries. Written reports, oral class presentations in the target language, and conversational Spanish will be emphasized. Several short novels and/or short stories by Hispanic authors will be read and discussed.

Prerequisite: Spanish III

HISTORY

WORLD HISTORY I (9) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

World History I is the first year of a two-year course of study of the world outside the United States. Students will learn to analyze history critically and gain an understanding of the distinctive features of Asian history and geography. Students will learn to read critically, analyze primary sources, and present and defend their viewpoints in both written and oral form.

Prerequisite: None

WORLD HISTORY II (10) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

World History II is the second year of a two-year course of study of the world outside the United States. Students will learn to analyze history critically and gain an understanding of the distinctive features of African, European, and Latin American history and geography. Students will learn to read critically, analyze primary sources, and present and defend their viewpoints in both written and oral form.

Prerequisite: World History I

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (11/ 12) FIRST SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

During this semester course, the student will study the origins, principles, and basic workings of the American political system and government, through the use of lecture, discussion, reading, videos, and group projects. Additional study will focus on biblical principles regarding authority and government and on the United States Constitution itself.

Prerequisite: None

20TH CENTURY U.S. HISTORY (11/12) SECOND SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

During this semester course, the student will study the history of the United States during the twentieth century, through the use of lecture, discussion, reading, videos, and projects. Attention will be given to both domestic and foreign affairs, focusing on those issues and events that shaped American history and solidified the United States as the dominant power of the world at the end of the century.

Prerequisite: None

AP U. S. HISTORY (11/12) TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

Advanced Placement U.S. History is an intensive survey course. Students will learn to write compelling essays that focus on a thesis, and they will learn to identify and critique a thesis in the writing and thoughts of others. Students will learn to read primary sources critically and to respond to ideas with creativity and originality. The pace of the course is intended to match college level work in order to prepare students for success in taking the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam in the spring. Only highly motivated students should apply.

Prerequisite: Departmental Approval

MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY (11/12) SECOND SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Modern European History is a one-semester course for Juniors and Seniors available in Honors or traditional formats. The course is designed to expose students to the history of Europe from the end of the Franco-Prussian War to the present. Student learning centers on research and presentation skills. Students construct their own assignments to cover the material. Student-constructed assignments encourage students to access a wide variety of historical sources and to present their work in a variety of creative formats.

Prerequisite: None

WESTERN CIVILIZATION I (12) FIRST SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Western Civilization (Honors) examines the ideas and general history of the western world, especially the classical ideas of Greece and Rome. Students learn by confronting the great thinkers of history and analyzing the ways in which their ideas have filtered down through the stages of Western History. Emphasis will be on reading and understanding the masters of Western History from the Classical Age whose ideas have endured through the years. Critical thinking will be carefully developed through Socratic dialogue and analytical critiques of the great writers.

Prerequisite: None

WESTERN CIVILIZATION II (12) SECOND SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Western Civilization (Honors) examines the ideas and general history of the western world from the founding of the Middle Ages to the relativism of the post-modern world. Students learn by confronting the great thinkers of history and analyzing the ways in which their ideas have filtered down through the stages of Western History. Emphasis will be on reading and understanding the masters of Western History from every age whose ideas have endured through the years. Critical thinking will be carefully developed through Socratic dialogue and analytical critiques of the great writers.

Prerequisite: None

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

The student will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to perform mathematical functions and problem-solving in the areas of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of integers, rational numbers, irrational numbers, polynomials, factoring polynomials, solving equations and inequalities with complex fractions, absolute value, square roots and quadratics, graphing linear equations and quadratic functions, and solving systems of linear equations.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA TWO SEMESTERS CREDIT: 1.00

The student will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to perform mathematical functions and problem-solving in areas of graphs, polynomials, factoring, fractional equations, radicals, imaginary numbers, conic sections, logarithms, and sequences/series. The course will also feature an expanded review of Algebra I concepts as opposed to moving on to topics in trigonometry as occurs in Algebra II.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 (Level 1 or Level 2)

ALGEBRA II**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: 1.00**

The student will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to perform mathematical functions and problem-solving in areas of graphs, polynomials, factoring, fractional equations, radicals, imaginary numbers, conic sections, logarithms, sequences/series, and trigonometric topics.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

GEOMETRY**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: 1.00**

The student will receive instruction in and demonstrate the ability to perform basic mathematical functions and problem-solving in the areas of geometry. They will learn how to develop formal proofs through the use of theorems, postulates, and inductive and deductive reasoning. They will expand their knowledge of trigonometry, area and volume. This course will introduce the student to constructions, coordinate geometry, transformational geometry, practical applications of geometry, and geometry related art.

PRE CALCULUS**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: 1.00**

Building on the concepts learned in Algebra and Geometry, the student will apply these skills to more complex mathematical functions and to modeling and solving real-world problems. Problem solving skills will be developed in the area of graphs, polynomials, logarithms, trigonometry, analytic geometry, systems of equations and inequalities, sequences and probability.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II and Geometry with a minimum "C" average

STATISTICS**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: 1.00**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the fundamental principles of Statistics so that they can critically analyze and utilize data in various fields of study and in everyday life. By the end of the course, students will be able to define and describe types of data, compare and analyze various types of data, understand the fundamental rules and principles of probability, apply the concept of normal distributions to everyday life situations, analyze survey studies for their validity and reliability, understand the basics of hypothesis testing, compare statistical findings from various samples for purpose of analysis, calculate and comprehend correlations, regression analyses, as well as various statistical measures, and critically evaluate data to determine its intended vs. actual meaning.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II (recommended) and Geometry

AP CALCULUS AB**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: 1.00**

Having a solid grasp of Pre-Calculus math, the student will learn how to apply the Calculus concepts of limits, derivatives and integrals to evaluate real-life situations. Moving outside the study of static situations, we will analyze dynamic situations with curved lines, accelerating objects, changing volumes, and variable forces.

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus with a minimum "C" average

MUSIC & ART

ART I (3X/WEEK)

FIRST SEMESTER

CREDIT: .30

Art 1 is offered as an elective 3 days per week for half of the year during Quarters 1 and 2 for grades 9-12. This course emphasizes understanding of the elements, principles, and design concepts that serve as a foundation for all works of art. Project work includes practice in drawing, painting, and two-dimensional design. Students will learn to use the art making process to develop core subject and life experience connections, advance thinking processes, communicate goals, as well as exercise critical thinking and problem solving. Through art production, students will be empowered to express themselves as an individual through student centered projects, take ownership of their artwork, as well as gain a respect for not only their peer's artwork, but also for their own.

Prerequisite: None.

ART II (3X/WEEK)

SECOND SEMESTER

CREDIT: .30

Art 1 is offered as an elective 3 days per week for half of the year during Quarters 3 and 4 for grades 9-12. Students will expand the learning processes discussed in Art 1, as well as explore a variety of techniques, materials, and subject matter. It is encouraged that students taking Art 1 quarters 1 and 2, take this course to fully expose themselves to an array of techniques, materials, and mixed media projects.

Prerequisite: Art 1

Art III ADVANCED ART (4X/WEEK) ONE SEMESTER

CREDIT: .40

This course will provide students with the opportunity to explore mixed media and focus on individual areas of interest. Art 3 will also help students work on portfolio development. This course will be taught in a mentoring and small group teaching style.

Prerequisite: Art 2 and Instructor recommendation

CHAMBER SINGERS

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: .50

Chamber Singers is a high-level, performance based vocal ensemble, open to students in grades 9 – 12. Students will study a variety of advanced musical repertoire to develop both individual and ensemble skills, while performing together to bring glory to the Lord and encourage others with the truth. This group rehearses before school and will perform at various school and community events. Members of the group must be dedicated and committed to the ensemble, with a serious desire to further their musical studies and abilities. *Students must be enrolled in Chorale to participate in this group. An audition and/or instructor approval required.*

CHORALE

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: .50

Chorale is a performance based vocal ensemble open to students in grades 7 – 12. Students will study a variety of musical repertoire to develop both individual and ensemble skills, while performing together to bring glory to the Lord and encourage others with the truth. Students will discover basic techniques for producing a good choral sound and develop their abilities to physically produce the sounds. Students must be enrolled in Chorale to participate in County or District Chorus, with the recommendation of the Director.

JAZZ & PEP BAND**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: .50**

Jazz and Pep Band is a high-level, performance based instrumental ensemble, open to students in grades 9 – 12. Students will study a variety of advanced musical repertoire to develop both individual and ensemble skills, while performing together to bring glory to the Lord and encourage others with the truth. This group rehearses before school and performs at various school and community events. Members of the group must be dedicated and committed to the ensemble, with a serious desire to further their musical studies and abilities. *Students must be enrolled in Symphonic Band to participate in this group. An audition and/or instructor approval required.*

MUSIC HISTORY**FIRST SEMESTER****CREDIT: .50**

This first semester course will explore music throughout various time periods while helping students to develop knowledge and a lifelong appreciation of music. Students will acquire comprehensive listening skills and gain historical background to help understand the development of various genres and styles of music. No musical knowledge or pre-requisites are necessary. Open to students in grades 11 – 12.

MUSIC THEORY**SECOND SEMESTER****CREDIT: .50**

Music Theory is a rigorous second semester course designed for students who desire to pursue music as a career, as well as those who desire a deeper study of music for personal enrichment. Topics covered include scales, key signatures, intervals, triads, inversions, musical form, and compositional techniques, each of which gives the student a well-rounded understanding of the building blocks of music. *Students must possess a strong musical background and the ability to fluently read music.* Open to students in grades 11 – 12.

SYMPHONIC BAND**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: .80**

Symphonic Band is a performance based ensemble open to students in grades 7 – 12 who play a wind or percussion instrument. Students will study a variety of musical repertoire to develop both individual and ensemble skills. *Students must already possess a basic knowledge of their instrument.* Attendance at all school performances is required. Students must be enrolled in Symphonic Band to participate in County or District Band, with the recommendation of the Director.

SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA**TWO SEMESTERS****CREDIT: .80**

Symphonic Orchestra is a performance based ensemble open to students in grades 7 – 12 who play a stringed instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double bass). Students will study a variety of musical repertoire to develop both individual and ensemble skills. *Students must already possess a basic knowledge of their instrument.* Attendance at all school performances is required. Students must be enrolled in Symphonic Orchestra to participate in County or District Orchestra, with the recommendation of the Director.

Bonding, and Chemical Reactions. The second semester focuses on Motion, Forces, Energy, and Electricity.

BIOLOGY II **TWO SEMESTERS** **CREDIT: 1.00**

This second year Biology course will build upon the foundations of year 1 with special emphasis on particular topics including Human Anatomy & Physiology, Botany, Ecology, and other current topics and issues in Biology.

Prerequisite: Biology & Chemistry* (recommended)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE **TWO SEMESTERS** **CREDIT: 1.00**

This 11th and 12th Grade Biology Course covers topics in Environmental Science from a Christian perspective. Topics include: Economics and Environmental Policy, Earth's Environmental Systems, Ecology, Biomes, Biodiversity, Human Populations, Human Health, Urbanization, Forestry, Water Resources, the Atmosphere, and Global Climate Change. Activities include debates on environmental topics, Labs, and a stream study in the Conodiguenet.

Prerequisite: Biology

PHYSICS I: MECHANICS **TWO SEMESTERS** **CREDIT: 1.00**

Physics I Mechanics focuses on the properties of motion. It is designed for those students planning to continue their education in science related fields. It is assumed these students possess a strong mathematical background and logical thinking skills. Course work is similar to the first semester of a college non-calculus physics course. Topics include: Kinematics, dynamics, forces and momentum. The topics to be covered in depth are statics and dynamics.

Prerequisite: Departmental Approval

ADVANCED SCIENCE **TWO SEMESTERS** **CREDIT: 1.00**

(Organic Chemistry & Physics II: Electricity & Magnetism): This rigorous course is designed to meet the needs of those students planning a science-based study in college including such areas as medicine, nursing, engineering, physics, biology, dentistry, or chemistry. The course is divided into two sections, Organic Chemistry and Physics II Electricity & Magnetism. During part I, students study organic nomenclature, alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, functional groups, aromatics, polymer chemistry, and organic reactions; similar to the first semester of a college organic chemistry course. During part II, students study electricity, magnetism, and basic circuits; again similar to the second semester of a college non-calculus physics course. Due to its rigorous nature, students need instructor approval prior to taking this course. These students must possess a strong mathematical background, work ethic, and logical thinking skills. Prerequisites: Chemistry but can be taken in conjunction with Physics I

AP CHEMISTRY **TWO SEMESTERS** **CREDIT: 1.00**

This rigorous course is designed to meet the needs of those students planning a science-based study in college including such areas as medicine, nursing, engineering, physics, biology, dentistry, or chemistry. This course includes thermodynamics, bonding, kinetics, equilibrium, acid-base equilibrium, nuclear chemistry, organic chemistry, and electrochemistry. Appropriate labs reinforce information. This class requires summer assignments of review material to ensure all students are prepared to begin the Advanced Placement class. Course content follows the Advanced Placement curriculum and is intended for those students who plan to take the Advanced Placement Test in Chemistry.

ELECTIVE COURSES

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

APPRENTICE PROGRAM (FASST) EITHER SEMESTER CREDIT: .25

This program has been developed to allow our students the opportunity to work with our staff to acquire the knowledge and techniques of being able to succeed in their various positions. The knowledge acquired during this program is then applied in practical situations. Upperclassmen are given priority this program. Requirements include weekly journals, a teacher evaluation, and an essay detailing what the student learned and accomplished during the semester. Admission is granted through an application process.

ENGINEERING I FIRST SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Engineering I: Unit 1 – Energy and Power Technologies, Unit 2 – Construction Technologies
This course will utilize hands-on, problem-based activities to introduce fundamental technology concepts, each unit is driven by authentic open-ended problems offering multiple opportunities for students to construct knowledge and develop appropriate skills across the contexts of technology. Each learning unit starts with a Preliminary Challenge and ends with a Primary Challenge. Teams of students will work together to develop a solution to the Primary Challenge as they work together through several Learning Cycles. This course is designed to help prepare High School students who either plan to go on to community college technical education or university-level engineering programs.

Pre-requisite: Must be presently enrolled in, or have successfully completed, Pre-Calculus

ENGINEERING II SECOND SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Engineering II: Unit 1 – Manufacturing Technologies, Unit 2 – Transportation Technologies
This course will utilize hands-on, problem-based activities to introduce fundamental technology concepts, each unit is driven by authentic open-ended problems offering multiple opportunities for students to construct knowledge and develop appropriate skills across the contexts of technology. Each learning unit starts with a Preliminary Challenge and ends with a Primary Challenge. Teams of students will work together to develop a solution to the Primary Challenge as they work together through several Learning Cycles. This course is designed to help prepare High School students who either plan to go on to community college technical education or university-level engineering programs.

Pre-requisite: Must be presently enrolled in, or have successfully completed, Pre-Calculus

LIFE CALLING (11th and 12th) ONE SEMESTER CREDIT: .50

Life Calling is a three-credit dual enrollment college level course through Indiana Wesleyan that assists students in discovering the concept of a life calling in a holistic and faith-based setting by focusing on one's God-given design as a basis for this calling. Students will be led to understand how work and individual leadership is best understood from the life calling perspective. In recent years, "career counseling" has been a popular method for helping students find a career path. In many cases this approach has proved ineffective. According to the U.S. Department of Education, 40% of college graduates end up working in careers unrelated to their college major within four years of graduation. How would this be different if we helped students focus on more than just a career? The *Life Calling* course will enable students to evaluate their

foundational values, unique design and personal leadership abilities while discovering how to integrate this into their personal direction and purpose. Additionally, this elective serves as a natural lead-in into the required Senior Capstone course.

ROBOTICS

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1:00

Autodesk's VEX Robotics Curriculum is divided up into twelve primary units and one optional unit. In a flexible format, students learn about engineering and engineering problem solving. They will be given introductions to the VEX Robotics Design System while learning key STEM principles through a process that captures the excitement and engagement of robotics competition. The curriculum is focused on mechatronic principles; as such, prior programming knowledge is NOT required. Prerequisite: Application and Teacher Approval

YEARBOOK

TWO SEMESTERS

CREDIT: 1:00

This is a full year course designed to work like a business. This course will give students an opportunity to capture the memories of their school year while learning skills that will prepare them for life beyond high school. Students will be required to meet deadlines, manage costs and budgets, sell advertisements, and work independently as well as collectively. Students will learn necessary journalism skills such as interviewing and caption writing. Students will learn page design and layout in addition to acquiring a basic foundation in photography. Considerable time outside of class will be required to prepare the yearbook for publication.

Prerequisite: Application and Teacher Approval

DUAL ENROLLMENT OFFERINGS

(Taught at WSCA by Messiah Professors: One Semester & One Credit Each)

COMM 105: Fundamentals of Oral Communication (3)

The purpose of this course is to improve your *knowledge* about communication, your communication *skills*, and your *motivation* to exercise effective and appropriate communication in your personal and professional life. Communication research has shown that students who display higher levels of communication competence perform better in all their classes, they are able to maintain healthier and more satisfying personal relationships, and they are more successful at securing employment after graduation. The top two skills employers seek in job candidates, according to *Job Outlook 2013: National Association of Colleges and Employers*, are (1) the ability to verbally communicate with persons inside and outside the organization, and (2) the ability to work in a team structure. But research also suggests that most people need to improve their level of communication skills. According to Rubin (1994), “more than 25 percent of young people (ages eighteen to twenty-four) cannot perform basic communication tasks such as giving clear oral directions...almost 95 percent of the population reports some degree of anxiety about communication with another person or in groups...adults listen at a 25 percent level of efficiency...[and] most employees show a significant lack of effective speaking and listening skills” (p. 20). The good news for all of us is that effective communication is a *learned* ability, rather than some innate trait that you either do or do not possess. This semester, we will learn how to speak more clearly, listen more mindfully, work with others more cohesively, adapt our communication to various audiences and communication mediums, achieve our communication goals in personal relationships and at work with greater success, perceive ourselves and others more accurately, and deliver more effective and ethical public presentations.

ECON 120: Principles of Macroeconomics (3)

This course introduces the basic economic theories of a capitalist economy while examining how our national economy functions. We will take an in-depth look at the structure of the US economy to learn how policy decisions are made in a domestic economy, especially concerning the interaction of the public and private sectors. You will find the reading to be very comprehensive on each topic, including the historical context and relevant theorists. You may be doing quite a bit of math, specifically algebra and geometry, and you will be expected to understand and utilize the graphs. You will learn to apply the material within a global context since our national economy, as with most countries in the world, is thoroughly integrated into the global economy and is heavily influenced by international economic activity. We will look at the major economic problems of inflation and unemployment, then look at the policy options used to solve these domestic economic problems. Fiscal policy will be examined through a Keynesian theoretical viewpoint. The Federal Reserve and the banking system will provide the foundation for the study of monetary policy. There will be considerable discussion and reading on the current economic health of the US as well as the global economy to illustrate the effectiveness (of lack there-of) of both fiscal and monetary policy. We will take the time to critically analyze the capitalist economic system, the theories of market economics, and the impact on the least advantaged. Our goal is to make all of the issues we discuss relevant and applicable to each student’s life, therefore current events will be used on a regular basis as real-life examples of the course content. We will also use Biblical principles to provide a normative analysis of the economic principles of capitalism. The concepts of social and distributive justice will also be woven throughout the course.

ENGL 160: Introduction to World Literature (3)

Study of selected works other than British or American. Readings may be selected from African, Indian, Pacific Rim, Caribbean, and other literatures in translation. Meets General Education Literature requirement.

PHIL 101: Problems in Philosophy (3)

Both critical and constructive thinking is developed with the theory of human knowledge and the theory of reality. Meets General Education Philosophy requirement.

PHIL 102: History of Philosophy (3)

Study of Western philosophical systems from the sixth century B.C. to the present with particular attention to major historical periods and developments. Meets general education Philosophy requirement.

PSYC 101: Psychology (3)

Introduction to modern psychology including its major theorists and methodologies and an overview of biological, personality, learning, developmental, social, and abnormal psychology. The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to various aspects of psychology. These will include topics within developmental, abnormal, and social psychology. In addition, time will be spent exploring perception, states of awareness, thinking, learning and memory. The areas of personality, motivation and psychological disorders will also be introduced. Students will also be introduced to how and where psychology and Christianity can be integrated. Meets General Education Social Sciences requirement.

SOAN 101 - Introduction to Sociology (3)

The study of humans in their social environment, with the goal of accumulating fundamental knowledge about human behavior, the structure of society, and social phenomena. Included is an introduction to Sociological research methods and logic of inquiry. Some sections include a community-service learning option. Meets QuEST/General Education Social Sciences requirement.