

**GREAT BEGINNINGS ACADEMY
ORLANDO
COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE**



**GREAT BEGINNINGS
ACADEMY**
of Orlando

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Great Beginnings Academy of Orlando

2023-2024

Curriculum & Course Description Guide

GREAT BEGINNINGS
ACADEMY
of Orlando

Great Beginnings Academy of Orlando provides our students the opportunity to grow spiritually, physically, cognitively, emotionally and socially through creative and structured learning activities. We recognize each student as an individual created by God, saved by Jesus Christ and having different learning abilities and styles. We promote Christian fundamentals with our students and staff members.

Great Beginnings Academy of Orlando strives to prepare its students to excel as future leaders of tomorrow by combining an unparalleled top-notch curriculum tailored specifically for students of all grade levels. Great Beginnings Academy provides a clean, safe, healthy environment where every student can develop emotionally, physically, intellectually, and socially. We are committed to providing safety and security for all students.

We believe that children should be allowed to grow at their own pace and to learn in ways that help them become confident in themselves as learners. We believe in the value of both structured and non-structured activities. Structured activities will include the use of the Abeka Curriculum, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) instruction, regular reading times, and music. It is our goal to create an environment and program where each child's natural desire to learn is stimulated through meaningful and appropriate learning experiences; those that meet the needs of each child as an individual.

We provide our students the opportunity to grow spiritually, physically, cognitively, emotionally and socially through structured learning activities.

We recognize each child as an individual created by God, saved by Jesus Christ and having different learning abilities and styles. We promote Christian fundamentals for our students and staff members. Each week, students are engaged in Chapel (a one-hour session with the entire school focusing on praise and worship of Jesus Christ and biblical lessons). We hone in on the biblical principles of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ. Each day, students receive instruction from their teacher that is biblical.



Family Participation/ Role of the parent

- **Parents should** always consider getting involved with their child's school. Not only does it help children get through their early and middle academic years, but it can also prove to be beneficial later in life. In elementary school, children often want to look up to someone, as they find it hard to make decision themselves and want to emulate elders. Hence, parents have a significant impact on their children's lives at this stage, but also on their decisions and how they will tackle them later in life.
- **When parents get involved**, children often feel more supported and loved, which helps increase their confidence and improve overall development. Parents and family members are welcomed and encouraged to partake in the activities (i.e., homework, schoolwide events, meetings and evening events) at Great Beginnings Academy.

Middle School Language Arts

Grade 06- Reading Comprehension/ Spelling, Vocabulary, Poetry 6

Student will review weekly word lists with prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Grade 06 Reading comprehension, spelling, and vocabulary consists of continuous vocabulary-building curriculum contained within word lists and a collection of poems for student memorization.

A wide variety of interesting subjects are included in a series of exercises. Comprehension quizzes on various exercises which contains questions based on stated facts, implications, or general reasoning, requiring students to develop a wider range of comprehension skills.

Grade 07- Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry I

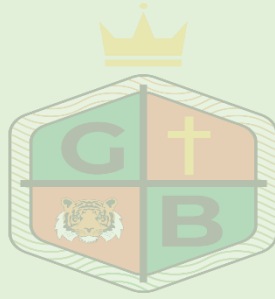
Students will expand vocabulary and strengthen writing skills with weekly lists of spelling and vocabulary words. Students will participate in exercises accompanying each list allowing for comprehension of vocabulary words in reading and application in writing. Through poems by notable authors—Emily Dickinson, Rudyard Kipling, and others—students will gain an appreciation of the power and beauty of words.

Expansion of vocabulary and strengthening writing skills with weekly lists of spelling and vocabulary words. Exercises accompanying each list allows for comprehension of vocabulary words in reading and application in writing.

Grade 08- Vocabulary, Spelling and Poetry II

Students will receive vocabulary and spelling lists with reviews to provide a carefully constructed system for mastering spelling and vocabulary words. Each list has designated spelling words keyed to spelling rules or frequently misspelled words and vocabulary words with exercises for reinforcement. The curriculum includes “Footprints on the Sands” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, “Crossing the Bar” by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and seven other poems selected for their beauty of language, literary greatness, and character-building qualities.

Contains designated vocabulary and spelling lists with four reviews to provide a carefully constructed system for mastering spelling and vocabulary words. Each list has 20 spelling words keyed to spelling rules or frequently misspelled words and 10 vocabulary words with exercises for reinforcement. The book also includes “Footprints on the Sands” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, “Crossing the Bar” by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, and seven other poems selected for their beauty of language, literary greatness, and character-building qualities.



Middle School Math

Middle School Mathematics

Students will master skills and concepts with the teach/reteach approach and abundant practice problems. Students will review story problems and frequent “Problem Solving Strategies” make arithmetic practical. Students will review the known to the unknown and will be introduced and taught new concepts and skills. Students will learn major concepts including fractions, decimals, proportions, percents, prime factoring, Algebraic equations, measurement, basic Geometry, and beginning banking.

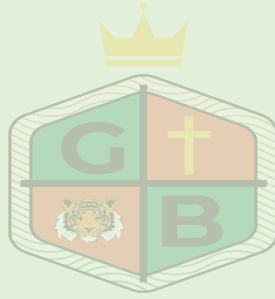
Middle School Intermediate Mathematics

Intermediate Mathematics work-text gives a strong review of all arithmetic concepts and skills in conjunction with instruction in other branches of mathematics including Algebra (four units), plane and solid geometry, and probability and statistics, providing the foundation students need to enjoy success in future mathematics courses. Problem-solving strategies throughout the course helps students develop needed critical thinking skills. Practical applications are utilized such as adjusting recipes, finding discounts, and calculating area. “Fast Facts” are short, distinctive features that appear throughout the curriculum promoting student interest and learning. Charts, step-by-step processes, glossary, and index complete this comprehensive work-text.

Pre-Algebra

This Pre-Algebra work-text begins with a brief but complete review of arithmetic before broadening students’ understanding of concepts such as polynomial arithmetic, coordinate geometry, probability, and radicals. Students build confidence and receive thorough preparation for Algebra 1 as advanced topics such as functions and systems of equations are presented in an interesting yet understandable manner using clear explanations and detailed step-by-step examples. This curriculum also includes optional Level Up sections that challenge students beyond the core materials of the text.

Middle School higher level mathematics courses include Algebra I and Geometry



***Algebra I**

Algebra concepts such as polynomial factoring, graphing of equalities and inequalities, and rational expressions are introduced and expanded through chapter studies. These topics build a foundation for introduction to more complex concepts such as probability, statistics, and translational graphing. The course includes examples and ample practice allowing for proficiency in concepts.

***Geometry**

This traditional text acquaints students with the fundamental tools of Geometry in an interesting way. Students are impressed with the necessity of a formal proof before being plunged into demonstrative Geometry. Many proofs are done for students to train them in the thinking process. Students are taught to think naturally, logically, and systematically through a well-written text and abundant exercises. The geometry curriculum allows students to enjoy the many “extras,” which include the mathematical information on several famous buildings, biographies of great mathematicians, and Geometry in the world around us.

Middle School Science

Grade 06-General Science I

Students will explore the universe as the direct creation of God and refutes the man-made idea of evolution. The curriculum is beautifully illustrated in full color with both photos, art, and features many charts and demonstrations. This course includes projects and experiments for use at home and at school. Some of the topics covered are invertebrates, plants, forces of the earth, the universe, space travel, and matter.

Grade 07-General Science II

This course will include the exploration of God’s creation and covers a variety of topics such as Anatomy and Physiology, Zoology, and Ecology. Beginning with a study of the scientific method, students are encouraged to investigate and formulate conclusions from their observations. The curriculum includes clear examples and demonstration ideas, learning about the order and design of our amazing world will be both eye-opening and enjoyable.



Grade 08- General Science III

The Earth Science curriculum emphasizes God as the Creator of the universe and presents nature as a testimony to His greatness. Students will perform investigations and apply reasoning skills as they study Geology (including soil science and the fossil record), Oceanography, Meteorology, Astronomy, and Environmental science. Students will learn how scientific evidence like the fossil record supports the literal Creation and global Flood recorded in Genesis. Students will also gain a biblical understanding of environmental topics such as pollution, use of natural resources, the ozone layer, and climate change.

Middle School Social Studies

Grade 06- MS World Geography

The World Geography curriculum takes a Christian approach to the history and geography of North and South America including a chapter on Canada. Important geographical facts and historical documents that should be given special interest throughout the year are highlighted and placed for easy reference. Comprehension Checks and Chapter Reviews in each chapter ensure learning, and the map program provides for geography skills practice. Each text contains a world atlas that includes physical and political maps. Throughout the year, students improve their map-reading skills with “Geography Mastery” activities.

Grade 07- MS World History

History of the World leads students on a journey through time from Creation to the present. The Christian worldview is the thread that connects the past to the present in this fascinating presentation of World History, teaching students to recognize the hand of God in human events. The World History course includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including maps, photos, timelines, and illustrations.



Grade 08- MS American History/Civics

America: Land I Love presents a chronological account of American History with a factual emphasis on the individuals, places, and events of American History. Incorporated throughout this course are thought-provoking questions to develop critical thinking skills while also strengthening a biblical worldview. America: Land I Love highlights the foundational values and biblical principles that were vital in the shaping of the United States. This course also includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including maps, photos, timelines, and illustrations.

Civics

Leads students as they complete national, state, and local studies, highlighting the governments and distinctive features of each. Contains a variety of activities that provide students with an in-depth knowledge of and appreciation for their own state and local area.

Middle School Electives

Art

Students take an inquiry-based approach to exploring, researching, and analyzing works of art across time and cultures. Through the study of art exemplars and project-based activities, students learn to identify the functions, forms, media, styles of art, cultural ideas, and themes related to a variety of time periods and geographical places and will express their own interpretations in a variety of ways. The course lays a foundation for the art criticism process, examining and comparing how artists have solved visual problems and made meaning across time, place, and culture. Career options related to art history and criticism are also explored. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.



GREAT BEGINNINGS
ACADEMY

Grade 06-Physical Education

This fitness course is designed for 6th grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness which are critical for students' success.

Grade 06- Health

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to promote healthy lifestyle and healthy living. This comprehensive course focuses on the health issues core to the optimum development of adolescents. The content should include, but is not limited to:

- **Core Concepts** (dimensions of health, environmental health, illnesses and healthy behaviors)
- **Accessing Information** (family and friend influences, disease prevention, reproductive health, medical resources, school and community health)
- **Internal and External Influences** (available resources, seeking help, technology, products and services)
- **Interpersonal Communication** (healthy alternatives, conflict resolution, verbal and non-verbal, active listening and refusal skills)
- **Decision Making** (individual and group decisions, and positive/negative healthy options)
- **Goal Setting** (short- and long-term health strategies, personal health and small groups)
- **Self-Management** (personal health practices and internet safety)
- **Advocacy** (positive promotion and accurate information sharing)





GREAT BEGINNINGS
ACADEMY

Grade 07- Physical Education

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to: Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics and Dance, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Grade 07- Health

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to promote healthy living. This comprehensive course focuses on making wise personal decisions and respecting and promoting the health of others.

The content should include, but is not limited to:

- **Mental and emotional health** (personal health care, screenings, counseling, negotiation skills, bullying, coping skills and depression)
- **Prevention and control of disease** (non-communicable, sexually transmitted diseases, STDs, and HIV/AIDS)
- **Consumer health** (risk reduction behaviors, policies/laws, medical resources, and conflict resolution)
- **Family life** (cultures, daily routines and rules)
- **Personal health** (risk reduction behaviors, communication skills, social relationships, wellness, and reproductive health)
- **Nutrition** (weight management, fitness plan, eating disorders, and BMI)
- **Internet safety** (security, threats, media, cyber-bullying parental controls, and monitoring)
- **Injury prevention and safety** (rules, bullying, water safety, weapons safety, and first aid/CPR/AED)
- **Substance use and abuse** (harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and over-the-counter drugs)
- **Community health** (local health organizations, technology, resources, and services)
- **Environmental health** (adverse health effects, chemicals toxins and pollutants)
- **Consumer health** (advertising, media influence, products and services)
- **Teen dating violence** (dating, media, abuse and violence)





GREAT BEGINNINGS
ACADEMY

Grade 08- Physical Education

The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which include but is not limited to: Outdoor Pursuits/Aquatics, Individual/Dual Sports and Alternative/Extreme Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

Grade 08- Health

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to become health literate and practice responsible behaviors to become healthy, productive citizens. This comprehensive course focuses on the development of positive life-long knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors, which promote an active and healthy lifestyle. The content should include, but is not limited to:

- **Mental and emotional health** (personal health care, screenings, counseling, negotiation skills, bullying, coping skills and depression)
- **Prevention and control of disease** (non-communicable, sexually transmitted diseases, STDs, and HIV/AIDS)
- **Consumer health** (risk reduction behaviors, policies/laws, medical resources, and conflict resolution)
- **Family life** (cultures, daily routines and rules)
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- **Teen dating violence** (dating, media, abuse and violence)



Students explore the essential elements of 20th- and 21st-century music in America (e.g., jazz, rock, soul, blues) and global cultures (e.g., Latin, Bollywood, European, Asian, world drumming). Students reflect on the significance of social influences and historical events on the development of music. Participants focus on the creation, use, and performance of music; and the modes of listening, distributing, and gaining access to music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Chorus

Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Band

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

FMI-STEM

FMI STEM Academy cultivates the development of academic persistence needed for both college-bound and technical career-bound high school students pursuing careers or degrees in science, technology, engineering and math. This persistence is validated by attaining both college credit and in-demand industry certifications. [FEMI-STEM Academy](#)

The essential skills that kids can learn in a STEAM lab are critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, communication, information literacy, media literacy, technology literacy, leadership, and flexibility. **(SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, and MATH)**





Library/Computer Science

This course covers the basics of information literacy utilizing the Florida FINDS (Focus, Investigate, Note, Develop, Score) research model. Search strategies, database and website evaluation, note taking and organization, citation formats in MLA (Modern Language Association) and APA (American Psychological Association), creation of presentation products (including the utilization of various software programs to produce multimedia), and an understanding of the meta-cognitive reflection process are an integral part of this course.

Computer Science

Computing is so fundamental to understanding and participating in society that it is valuable for every student to learn as part of a modern education. Computer science can be viewed as a liberal art, a subject that provides students with a critical lens for interpreting the world around them. Computer science prepares all students to be active and informed contributors to our increasingly technological society whether they pursue careers in technology or not. Computer science can be life-changing, not just skill training.

Students learn best when they are intrinsically motivated. This course prioritizes learning experiences that are active, relevant to students' lives, and provide students authentic choice. Students are encouraged to be curious, solve personally relevant problems and to express themselves through creation. Learning is an inherently social activity, so the course is designed to interweave lessons with discussions, presentations, peer feedback, and shared reflections. As students proceed through the pathway, the structures increasingly shift responsibility to students to formulate their own questions, develop their own solutions, and critique their work.

It is also critical to diversify the technology workforce. Addressing inequities within the field of computer science is critical to bringing computer science to all students. The tools and strategies in this course will help teachers understand and address well-known equity gaps within the field. All students can succeed in computer science when given the right supports and opportunities, regardless of prior knowledge.





**High
School
Language
Arts**



English 1- Grammar and Composition III

This traditional grammar and composition work-text emphasizes the fundamentals of grammar as the basis of your students' ability to write analytically, clearly, and effectively. This course includes grammar section with concise rules and clear examples followed by pertinent exercises to provide practice and reinforce concepts. Each composition follows the writing process and provides clear, annotated samples.

English 2-Grammar and Composition IV

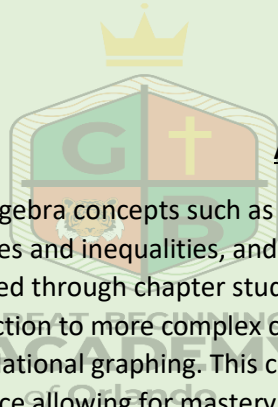
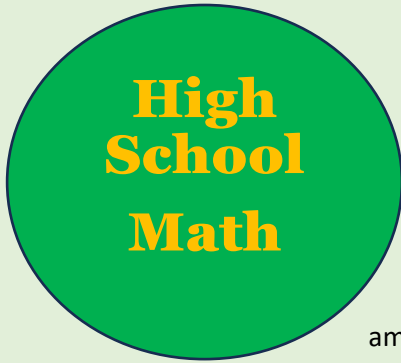
A traditional grammar and writing work-text, Grammar and Composition IV emphasizes the fundamentals of grammar and develops students' ability to think analytically and to write clearly and effectively. Students write paragraph book reviews, descriptions, summaries, a research paper, and essays to apply their knowledge of grammar and to sharpen writing skills.

English 3-Grammar and Composition V

With an emphasis on editing and revising, students learn how to choose the right words and compose correct and effective sentences. This curriculum repeatedly takes students through the editing and revising phases of the writing process and includes review exercises on grammar and mechanics.

English 4- Grammar and Composition VI

Through an emphasis on editing and revising, students learn how to choose the right words and compose correct and effective sentences. Exercises in using the dictionary and library, writing paragraphs and paraphrases, and completing other activities help students refine their writing skills. Reviewing exercises on grammar and mechanics help them retain their knowledge of grammar.



Algebra I

Basic Algebra concepts such as polynomial factoring, graphing of equalities and inequalities, and rational expressions are introduced and expanded through chapter studies. These topics build a foundation for introduction to more complex concepts such as probability, statistics, and translational graphing. This course includes detailed examples and ample practice allowing for mastery of concepts.

Algebra 2

Chapter studies reinforce foundational Algebraic methods and expand concepts such as Probability, Statistics, and transitional graphing. New topics such as sequences, series, counting, and Trigonometry are also introduced. Proficiency In concepts is developed through detailed examples and ample practice.

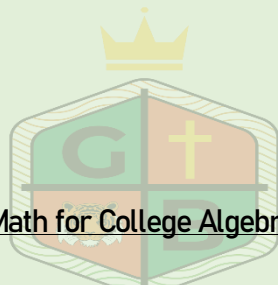
Geometry

This traditional text acquaints students with the fundamental tools of Geometry in an interesting way. Students are impressed with the necessity of a formal proof before being plunged into demonstrative geometry. Many proofs are done for students to train them in the thinking process. Students are taught to think naturally, logically, and systematically through a well-written text and abundant exercises. Students enjoy the many “extras,” which include the mathematical information on several famous buildings, biographies of great mathematicians, and geometry in the world around us.

*Pre-Calculus

This course provides a solid foundation for work with functions and culminates with an introduction to the calculus topics of the derivative and the integral. Beginning with a review of basic Trigonometry, the study progresses to advanced topics including functions, identities, and trigonometric equations. Development of analytical Geometry topics includes a logical approach to the study of lines, conics, quadric surfaces, polar coordinates, and parametric equations. Colorful graphs in one, two, and three dimensions illustrate the concepts and provide a frame of reference for discussion. The curriculum includes tips and example problems showing step-by-step solutions that aid in understanding and problem solving. Balanced exercises in each chapter provide many opportunities for students to understand both the algebraic solution and practical application of problem solving.

***High School Higher Level Math and Science Includes Pre-Calculus and Physics**

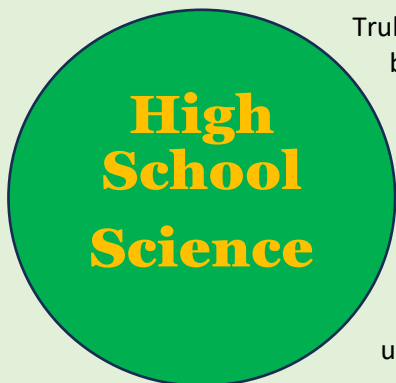


Math for College Algebra

In Mathematics for College Algebra, instructional time will emphasize five areas: (1) developing fluency with the Laws of Exponents with numerical and algebraic expressions; (2) extending arithmetic operations with algebraic expressions to include rational and polynomial expressions; (3) solving one-variable exponential, logarithmic, radical and rational equations and interpreting the viability of solutions in real-world contexts; (4) modeling with and applying linear, quadratic, absolute value, exponential, logarithmic and piecewise functions and systems of linear equations and inequalities; (5) extending knowledge of functions to include inverse and composition.

Curricular content for all subjects must integrate critical-thinking, problem-solving, and workforce-literacy skills; communication, reading, and writing skills; mathematics skills; collaboration skills; contextual and applied-learning skills; technology-literacy skills; information and media-literacy skills; and civic-engagement skills.

Biology

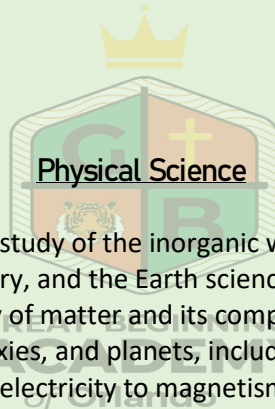


Truly nonrevolutionary in philosophy, spirit, and sequence of study, this text begins with the familiar, tangible things of nature and concludes with God's amazing design at the cellular and chemical levels. Abstract concepts are tied to concrete examples through clear, easy-to-read explanations, laying a firm foundation for future studies. Key concepts listed at the head of each chapter, pronunciation helps, bold keywords, vivid photographs, full-color diagrams, section reviews, and chapter reviews will help your students learn. The course includes an introduction into the study of Botany, Zoology, Anatomy and Physiology that reflects the latest advances in man's understanding of living things without neglecting a foundation in the basics.

Chemistry

The organization of this chemistry text ensures proficiency in the basic principles. An appealing layout with abundant photographs, illustrations, and diagrams makes chemical principles and applications clear and understandable. Computer-generated molecular models allow students to visualize chemical processes more easily. Increased emphasis on the basics of chemistry and foundational math topics gives students a firm foundation on which to build more advanced knowledge. Practical applications of chemistry are given throughout, highlighting the importance of chemistry in everyday life. A Christian perspective helps students see chemistry as a beneficial science that can be used for man's benefit and God's glory. Environmental issues such as ozone depletion, global warming, and nuclear power are presented from a balanced, conservative perspective. Numerous in-text learning aids are provided, including worked examples, section reviews, and chapter reviews.





Physical Science

Physical science curriculum includes the study of the inorganic world. The four main branches of physical science are Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry, and the Earth sciences, which include Meteorology and Geology. This course will cover the study of matter and its composition and motion through space and time, celestial objects such as stars, galaxies, and planets, including the atmosphere, hydrosphere and ecosphere of Earth and everything from electricity to magnetism to quantum mechanics.

Earth Space Science

Earth and Space Science curriculum features of the Earth and the universe that surrounds Earth. It involves learning about the Earth's land, atmospheres, oceans, and life, as well as studying the other planets in the solar system, the universe, and how humans can explore space.

*Physics

Making physics understandable is the distinguishing feature of Physics: The Foundational Science. Thorough and detailed explanations, with a touch of humor, penetrate the most perplexing questions. The principles of physics are illustrated by everyday experience and practical devices. The student is shown many kinds of technology, from the camera to the car. Numerous illustrative problems are solved in detail. This text can play a significant role in showing students the harmony between scientific knowledge and Christian belief. It is firmly grounded on the view that we live in a God-created world governed by laws discoverable by reverent scientific inquiry. Issues of vital concern to Christians are handled in depth. Interspersed throughout the text are biographies of great physicists who were also Bible-believing Christians. Sections included present fun and practical applications like antimatter, automobile suspension, red- and blueshift, cloaking/invisibility, and maglev trains.

High School Social Studies

Philosophy

An introduction to philosophy through topics found in classical and contemporary philosophical writings, such as the nature of truth and knowledge, mind and body, freedom and determinism, right and wrong, and the existence of God.

Biblical Studies

The purpose of the class is to help students integrate the teachings and lifestyle of Jesus into every area of their lives daily. This course is designed to explore the books of the Bible, themes, plots, characters, history and other pertinent information related to God's Holy Word. Students will use maps, internet research, group discussion, video, games and other learning methods to gain understanding of God's truth for each book.





Confident that the hand of God has been active throughout history, World History and Cultures traces mankind's story starting from the Garden of Eden. A study of Greco-Roman culture paves the way for medieval history, while the last section brings students to the cusp of current history, depicting world events considering God's will. While the focus is on western Judeo-Christian civilization, Asian and African cultures are also presented in a unique ancient-to modern style. The history of ideas is emphasized rather than just political and economic events. Students receive a Christian perspective on topics such as language, chronology, "prehistoric times," art, music, evolutionism, socialism, Communism, humanism, liberalism, and more. This course includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including maps, photos, timelines, and illustrations.

American History

Heritage of Freedom provides a positive, narrative approach to American history that is reinforced by factual accounts of events, people, and ideas essential in shaping the success of America today. Special emphasis is placed on America's Christian heritage and patriotic pursuit of freedom, helping students identify the values that are the foundation of the United States of America. Thought-provoking prompts are included throughout the text for the development of critical thinking skills. This course includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including maps, photos, timelines, and illustrations.

American Government

American Government provides for students the firm foundation needed to become informed, responsible citizens and voters in today's world. This text opens with an inspiring look at the blessings we enjoy and the symbols we hold dear as American citizens. This is followed by a detailed study of the Constitution, the government it established, and the rights and privileges it guarantees the American people. After studying the Constitution and the national government, students learn about federalism and government at the state and local levels. The text concludes with a chapter on the opportunities and responsibilities of American citizens to get involved in their unique political system. It presents an American government as it was intended by its framers. Maintaining law and order while recognizing the freedom of citizens is emphasized as the proper role of government. This course includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including photos and illustrations.



Emphasis on free-enterprise capitalism in a free-market economy sets Economics: Work and Prosperity apart. Students are informed how to understand the economic roles of individual producers and consumers as well as that of the government. The stark contrast between the market economy—the cornerstone of prosperity in the United States—and the command economy—the hallmark of fiscal failure in Communist countries—is graphically presented in illustration of the economic principles that govern all societies. Economics: Work and Prosperity is not just a text about buying and selling or supply and demand. Rather, the biblical view of work, wealth, and stewardship appears throughout the text, with essential concepts such as competition in the marketplace and private ownership of capital being presented from a conservative perspective. This course includes an emphasis on key facts and concepts, review sections throughout each chapter with additional review at the end of each chapter, and a variety of visual aids, including photos and illustrations.

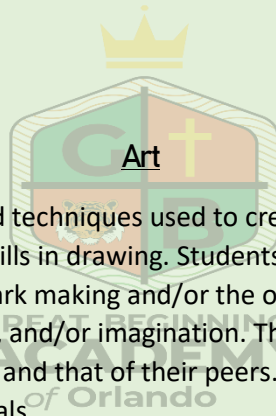
High School Electives

Personal Fitness/Health

The purpose of this course is to develop and enhance healthy behaviors that influence lifestyle choices and student health and fitness. Students will combine the learning of principles and background information in a classroom setting with physical application of the knowledge. Most of the class time should be spent in physical activity.

In addition to the physical education content represented in the benchmarks below, specific health education topics within this course include, but are not limited to:

- Mental/Social Health
- Physical Activity
- Components of Physical Fitness
- Nutrition and Wellness Planning
- Diseases and Disorders
- Health Advocacy



Art

Students experiment with the media and techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through the development of skills in drawing. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art to improve mark making and/or the organizational principles of design in a composition from observation, research, and/or imagination. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Music

Students learn how music is constructed and developed, and acquire a basic understanding of the structural, technical, and historical elements of music. Student theorists develop basic ear-training, keyboard, and functional singing skills, and engage in the creative process through individual and collaborative projects. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Band

This entry-level class, designed for students having little or no previous band experience with woodwind, brass, and/or percussion instruments, promotes the enjoyment and appreciation of music through performance of high-quality, beginning wind and percussion literature from various times and places. Rehearsals focus on the development of critical listening/aural skills; rudimentary instrumental technique and skills, music literacy, and ensemble skills; and aesthetic musical awareness culminating in periodic public performances.

