



ARISTOI
CLASSICAL ACADEMY



Curriculum Highlights Grades K-12

INTRODUCTION

With the exception of Latin, much of the scope and sequence cited below is taken from the Core Knowledge® Sequence (not to be confused with “Common Core” standards prohibited in Texas schools), which complements classical education. As a public charter school, Aristoi also teaches all subjects and topics required by the State of Texas. The summary below is only a portion of what is taught at every grade level. For example, whereas all public schools are required to offer basic “social studies,” Aristoi offers that as required, plus a greatly enhanced history of the world and the United States in all grades. Some topics are covered in multiple grades. This is the classical education method of covering an important subject at the depth appropriate for the child’s development. Younger students learn basic facts (such as when the Civil War was fought and who fought) while older students learn comprehensive details (such as why the Civil War was fought and how it shaped America’s future).

Aristoi is proud to include rich fine arts classes at every grade level. We have a K-4 program which includes comprehensive classes in art music, a 5-8 program which specializes in fine arts history classes in various disciplines (and also offers band as an extracurricular activity), and a 9-12 program in which students choose a specialty to focus on for their high school career.

SOCRATIC DIALOGUE

Socratic dialogue is the pedagogical tool at the heart of the classical education enterprise. Following the model left by Plato’s famous teacher, Socrates, this process of questioning is designed to excavate students’ assumptions in order to reveal the path forward in the search for truth. The Socratic approach to instruction requires a student to be a partner in that search, not just the passive recipient of the fruits of another’s quest. In this way, whether in history or literature class, in science or math, students are always called upon to behave as intellectual explorers. This method of allowing a student to propose an idea, offer a rebuttal, or defend

an idea logically plays a role at all grade levels. In Kindergarten, the teacher might ask in reference to the well-known fable, “Who do you think had a better idea, the grasshopper or the ant? Why? What should the grasshopper have done instead?” This method allows revelations regarding morality, character, and motives to surface. At the Upper School level—say, in a Humane Letters course—the method may be used to lead the class to refine their sense of the major theme of *The Odyssey*, or to distill the argument of a historiographical essay.

SCIENCE

Aristoi teaches a rich science curriculum at every grade level. The difference between Aristoi and other public schools in this subject is that, in addition to studying a wide scope of scientific information, Aristoi students also study the great scientists who contributed to their fields. Additionally, students learn about historical events which might have led to the discoveries, or, in the alternative, they learn how important discoveries changed the course of history.

MATH

Aristoi uses Singapore Math in grades K-8.

SHURLEY GRAMMAR

This grammar program is used in grades 1-8 to give students a firm grasp of the English language.

SPELLING

Spelling is a requirement from grades K-6.

LATIN

At Aristoi, Latin is a vehicle used to investigate the ancient world. Additionally, studying Latin extends each student’s understanding of English and allows an appreciation for literature and character. Latin is introduced in the elementary grades and then studied in earnest beginning in Junior High School.

ART We seek to teach the students as Aristotle exhorted: “The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.” Whenever possible, art is studied through the lens of history. For example, if a class is

studying the Renaissance in History, they will study in art events influenced the great artists of the day.

MUSIC

Most songs are taught within a historical context; many are more than 50 years old. Patriotic songs are emphasized at all grade levels. Every grade level studies classical music in order to appreciate its rich and evocative musical fabric. The students have several opportunities to present singing or instrumental performances during the year. Most notably, students sing to honor the armed forces at our annual Veterans Day program.

MEMORIZATION AND RECITATION

This is a critical component of classical education. Memorization disciplines the mind, whereas recitation allows students to practice elocution and gain confidence in public speaking. We begin in Kindergarten when students memorize and recite the Preamble to the Constitution. Aristoi 5th graders memorize and recite 16-18 poems written by the likes of William Blake and Lewis Carroll. All grade levels have similar

opportunities to memorize and recite literary works or historical pieces.



THE VIRTUES Aristoi emphasizes the virtues that undergird Western Civilization. We believe that knowledge should not be divorced from character.

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS *of* VIRTUOUS CHARACTER

MAGNANIMITY

HONESTY

WISDOM

JUSTICE

COURAGE

TEMPERANCE

RESPECT

HUMILITY

CHARITY

TRUTH VERUM
GOODNESS BONUM
BEAUTY PULCHRUM

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KINDERGARTEN

U.S. History: Native American Peoples, Past and Present, Early Exploration and Settlement, The Mount Rushmore Presidents, Memorize and Recite Preamble to United States Constitution (first semester)

World History: Geography - Spatial Sense, Identify and Locate the Seven Continents on Map and Globe

Language Arts: Saxon Phonics develop the foundation for Reading

- Poetry - Sing a Song of Sixpense, Old King Cole, I Do Not Mind You, Winter Wind, Mother Goose
- Stories - Chicken Little, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs, The Ugly Duckling, How Many Spots Does a Leopard Have? The Legend of the Jumping Mouse, King Midas and the Golden Touch, The Wolf and the Kids
- Aesop's Fables - The Lion and the

Mouse, The Grasshopper and the Ants

- American Folk Tales - Johnny Appleseed, Casey Jones
- Sayings and Phrases - Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. The early bird gets the worm. Where there's a will there's a way. Look before you leap. Better safe than sorry.

Math: Singapore Math

- Counting - Counting to 100, Skip Counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's
- Number Representation to 20
- Comparing and Ordering
- Composing and Decomposing Numbers to 10
- Place Value - Ones and Tens
- Fraction - Halves, Thirds, and Quarters
- Coin Values

Science: Areas of study include:

- The Scientific Method
- Plant Parts and Needs
- The Human Body
- Forces and Motion
- Energy
- Magnetism
- Types of Matter
- Weather
- Animal Needs and Habitats
- Taking Care of the Earth
- The Sun, Moon, and Constellations

Music: Folk songs, You're a Grand Old Flag, Yankee Doodle

Art: Color, line, sculpting

FIRST GRADE

U.S. History: Early Explorers and Settlers, Pocahontas, From Colonies to Independence, Exploring the West

World History: Mesopotamia, The Cradle of Civilization, Early Civilizations of the Americas, Ancient Egypt (Coincides with art of ancient Egypt), The World's Religions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam

Language Arts: Saxon Phonics and Spelling

- Poetry - Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes Stories – Hansel and Gretel, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rumpelstiltskin, The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Aesop's Fables (The Boy Who Cried Wolf, A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing)
- Sayings and Phrases - An apple a day keeps the doctor away, Practice makes perfect, If at first you don't succeed, try, try again., Sour grapes.

Math: Singapore Math

- Numbers to 10 - Counting, Comparing and Making Number Patterns
- Number Bonds
- Addition Facts to 10
- Subtraction Facts to 10
- Numbers to 20 - Counting, Place Value, Patterns and Ordering
- Addition and Subtraction Facts to 20 Length
- Numbers to 40
- Addition and Subtraction to 40
- Money

Curriculum Highlights

Elementary School (K-4)

- Numbers to 100
- Calendar - Month, Day, Year, Write the Date, Seasons
- Time to the Hour, Half-Hour, Quarter Hour

Science:

- Scientific Processes and Procedures
- The Human Body - Skeletal System, Digestive System, Muscular System, Circulatory System
- Solids and Liquids
- Atoms
- Electricity
- Measurement
- The Solar System: The Moon
- The Planets
- Animal Habitats - Ocean, Desert, Rain- forest, Forest
- Seasons

Music: Folk songs, patriotic songs, Hansel and Gretel, Peter and the Wolf

Art: Cave paintings, secondary colors, texture



SECOND GRADE

U.S. History: The Geography of America, The Constitution, The War of 1812 (Coincides with Star Spangled Banner in Music), Westward Expansion: Pony Express, Native Americans, Trail of Tears, California Gold Rush, The Civil War: Harriet Tubman, North vs. South, Abraham Lincoln, Emancipation Immigration: The Land of Opportunity, "e pluribus unum" Civil Rights Leaders:

Susan B. Anthony, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr.

World History: Ancient China and India and their religions, Ancient Greece (Athens, Sparta, Persian Wars of Marathon and Thermopylae, gods and goddesses, Socrates, Plato and Aristotle)

Language Arts:

- Poetry - Emily Dickinson, Federico Garcia Lorca, Shel Silverstein, Christina Rossetti, Clement C. Moore, Robert Louis Stevenson
- American Folk Heroes - Paul Bunyan, Johnny Appleseed, John Henry, Pecos Bill, Casey Jones
- Literature - A Christmas Carol, Charlotte's Web, The Emperor's New Clothes, Little House in the Big Woods, Beauty and the Beast, Peter Pan
- Mythology of Ancient Greece - Gods of Greece & Folktales from Asia
- Sayings and Phrases - Back to the drawing board; Don't judge a book by its cover; Don't cry over

spilled milk; Practice what you preach.

Math: Singapore Math

- Numbers to 1,000
- Addition and Subtraction to 1,000 with Regrouping
- Using Bar Models to Add, Subtract
- Measurement
- Multiplication and Division
- Multiplication Tables of 2, 5, 10, 3, & 4
- Metric Measurement of Length
- Mass - Kilograms & Grams
- Volume - Liters
- Mental Math & Estimation
- Money
- Fractions
- Customary Measurement of Length
- Time
- Using Bar Models to Multiply & Divide
- Graphs & Line Plots
- Lines & Surfaces
- Shapes & Patterns

Science:

- Life Cycles of Plants, Butterflies, Frogs, and Chickens
- Insects
- The Human Body
- Magnets
- Patterns
- Simple Machines
- Matter and Energy
- Earth and Space

Music: Patriotic songs, songs from Westward Expansion, African American Spirituals

Art: Abstract art, landscapes, architecture

THIRD GRADE

U.S. History: Earliest Americans, Native Americans, Exploration and Settlement of America, The Thirteen Colonies

World History: Geography of continents, oceans, hemispheres, rivers of the world, Canada, Ancient Rome (Persecution of Christians & Fall of Rome), The Vikings

Language Arts:

- Poetry – Shel Silverstein, Shakespeare, Joyce Kilmer, Lewis Carroll
- Literature - Alice in Wonderland, Aladdin: Tales of the Arabian Nights, Stuart Little, Sarah - Plain and Tall, The Tale of Despereaux, Detectives in Togas, Stone Fox, Little House on the Prairie, and Homer Price
- Mythology - Norse Mythology, Ancient Roman and Roman Mythology
- Sayings and Phrases - Actions speak louder than words; One rotten apple spoils the whole barrel; Beggars can't be choosers; When in Rome do as the Romans do

Math: Singapore Math

- Numbers to 10,000
- Mental Math & Estimation
- Addition & Subtraction up to 10,000
- Using Bar Models to Add,

Subtract, Multiply & Divide

- Multiplication & Multiplication Tables
- Division
- Money
- Metric Length, Mass, & Volume
- Real World Problems: Measurement
- Bar Graphs & Line Plots
- Fractions
- Customary Length, Weight, & Capacity
- Time & Temperature
- Angles & Lines
- Two-Dimensional Shapes
- Area & Perimeter

Science:

- Classifying Animals
- Human Body - Muscles and Bones, Nervous System, Light and Vision, Sound and Hearing
- Astronomy
- Ecology
- Lives of Famous Scientists

Music: Stars and Stripes Forever, National Anthem, Nutcracker Suite

Art: Light, space, pattern, symmetry

FOURTH GRADE

U.S. History: The American Revolution, Making a Constitutional, Government: Declaration of Independence, Natural Rights, Republican Government, Founding Fathers, Checks and Balances, The Constitution, The Bill of Rights, Texas History

World History: The Middle Ages: (The Christian Church, Feudalism, Norman Conquest

Language Arts:

- Poetry - Ralph Waldo Emerson, Carl Sandburg, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Stories - Gulliver's Travels, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Robin Hood, Polly Anna, Rio Van Winkle, Door in the Wall, Girl of the Alamo
- Myths - King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table
- Speeches - Patrick Henry: "Give

Curriculum Highlights

Elementary School (K-4)

me liberty or give me death.”

- Sayings and Phrases - As the crow flies; Bury the hatchet; Beauty is only skin deep; Haste makes waste; Two wrongs don't make a right; When it rains, it pours.

Math: Singapore Math

- Numbers and Number Sense
- Fractions and Decimals
- Money
- Multiplication
- Division
- Solving Problems and Equations
- Measurement
- Geometry - Identify and Draw Points and Lines
- Geometry - Identify Angles
- Geometry - Identify Polygons
- Geometry - Circles: Identify Radius and Diameter
- Geometry - Recognize Similar and Congruent Figures

Science:

- Human Body - Circulatory System
- Human Body - Heart and the Four

- Chambers Human Body - Respiratory System
- Chemistry Basic Terms and Concepts -Atoms, Properties of Matter, Elements, Solutions, Electricity

Music: Armed Forces songs, Texas, Our Texas, learn to play the recorder

Art: Art of the Middle Ages, Islamic art, African art, American art



FIFTH GRADE

U.S. History: Ancient Greece and Rome
Texts used include: Famous Men of Greece, Famous Men of Rome, The Story of the

History: Ancient Times, The Book of the Ancient Greeks, The Book of the Ancient Romans.

Students will examine the lives of notable individuals and expansion of the Greek and Roman empires while exploring the life and culture of the people who lived during the time of these great empires: Athens, Sparta, Olympic games, Lycurgus, Solon, Persian War, Marathon, Pericles, Themistocles, Temples of Athens, and The Greek Theater. The Founding of Rome, The Seven Kings, First and Second Punic Wars, Sulla, Pompey, and Julius Caesar, The Roman Empire.

Language Arts: Texts used include: Shurley English Grammar, Institute for Excellence in Writing, Vocabulary from

Classical Roots (Latin & Greek)

- Literature: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe (Lewis) Jason and the Golden Fleece (Colum), The Trojan War (Coolidge), The Secret Garden (Burnett), The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (Twain)
- Drama: Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare
- Poetry: The Road Not Taken (Robert Frost), Casey at the Bat (Ernest Lawrence Thayer), Fog (Carl Sandburg), The New Colossus (Emma Lazarus)

Math: Areas of study include place value, arithmetic operations, and rounding with both whole numbers and decimals; operations with fractions; algebra; geometry with area, surface area, volume, and angles; graphing; personal finance Texts used include: Math in Focus: Singapore Math

Science: Areas of study include biological classification, plants, interactions and changes in ecosystems,

water on earth, weather patterns, forces that change the earth, natural resources, matter, forces and energy, earth in space, stars and galaxies, and human body systems. Texts used include: Scott Foresman Science.

Latin: Vocabulary from Latin Roots

Theater: This is a two semester course with one live performance each semester after school including preparation and rehearsals during class. The first semester will focus on Greek Theatre and its' history as well as key elements in play production. The second semester will focus on Elizabethan Theatre and its history along with key elements in play production.

SIXTH GRADE

Medieval History: Fall of Rome and rise of Christendom, Barbarians, Christianity and Islam, Byzantium, Battle of Tours, Vikings and the introduction of feudalism, life in the Middle Ages,

Crusades, Magna Carta and its influence on constitutional law, the Black Death, the Hundred Years' War, the Wars of the Roses, Protestant Reformation, Reconquista, New World Exploration; Geography of modern Europe

Art History: This is a two semester course which intently examines classical art history. The aim is to understanding history through art, identify major works of art which have influenced and preserved culture, and develop drawing skills from observation and application of techniques demonstrated by the masters. Students will examine Classical Art (The Art of Ancient Greece and Rome), Gothic Art, The Renaissance, Baroque, Rococo, Neoclassical, Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism, Expressionism and Abstraction, Modern American Painting.

Language Arts: Shurley English, Institute for Excellence in Writing
Sentence Patterns 1-5; literary analysis; Hero's Journey and Cosmogonic Cycle; persuasive essay.

- Poetry - rhyme scheme and introduction to meter: iambs, trochees, anapests, dactyls; Shakespeare, The Highwayman, The Lady of Shalott, and various other samples
- Literature - The Phantom Tollbooth; Realms of Gold, Vol. 1 (anthology of short stories); The Wind in the Willows; Sir Gawain and the Green Knight; A Midsummer Night's Dream

Science: Earth Science utilizing Pearson's interactive textbook (2013 edition); Students learn that science is both a body of knowledge and a process of acquiring new knowledge as we seek to understand how our universe works. We study the history of the development of plate tectonic theory and the history of humanity's understanding of gravity to learn how ideas and theories can change over time as scientists work to observe, gather facts, and analyze how facts work together to either create or change

theories about the universe. Students are encouraged to ponder both the beauty and the devastation of erosion, weathering and storms.

Math: Singapore Math Course 1 will enable students to gain depth of understanding, fluency of skills and confidence in problem solving. Singapore Math provides opportunities to use visuals and models to enhance student understanding. Cumulative review practice is built into the 6th grade program to build fluency, and to prepare students for successful retention. Students are also guided to understand the beauty of math and appreciate the connections between math and nature through math labs.

Latin: This course is designed to introduce students to the Latin language using basic reading, writing, and conversational strategies. Students will deepen their knowledge of the English language through an examination of Latin roots and derivatives. Finally, students will trace

the influence of the Latin language and classical culture in modern society by examining the practices, perspectives, and products of the ancient Romans.

SEVENTH GRADE

History: Spanish, French, and British claims to the New World; the ethics of Indian policy; the Mission System; colonial settlement patterns; comparative revolutions (American, French, Mexican, Texan) Sam Houston, Moses and Stephen F. Austin, Santa Ana. Readings include Lone Star (Fehrenbach), Adventures in the Unknown Interior of America (Cabeza de Vaca), With Santa Anna in Texas (Jose Enrique De La Pena), and 6 Years with the Texas Rangers: 1875-1881 (James B. Gillett)

- European Exploration, Conquest, and Evangelization
- New World Revolutions of the 18th and 19th Century
- The Texas Revolution
- Texas as Republic and State

Language Arts: The ability to write a complete persuasive essay is the overarching goal. Shurley Grammar, The Institute for Excellence in Writing, The Lost Tools of Writing.

- Short stories – The Necklace, The Gift of the Magi, The Tell-tale Heart, Araby
- Poetry - The Fireside Poets
- Novels - The Call of the Wild, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Drama – Cyrano de Bergerac

Science: Life Sciences utilizing Pearson's interactive textbook (2013), Classification of living things; Cells and their parts and functions; DNA; Plants and animals; the human body; ecological communities.

Math: In 7th grade we use Math In Focus Singapore Math, courses 2. Math in Focus is designed to help students gain depth of knowledge, fluency with skills, and confidence in problem solving. It employs a focus on problem solving and a concrete visual-symbolic progression to help

students build solid conceptual understanding. Mathematical problem solving is central to mathematics learning. It involves the acquisition and application of mathematics concepts and skills in a wide range of situations, including real-world problems. In addition to the traditional 7th and 8th grade levels of mathematics, Aristoi students are also offered an advanced 7th grade course which is designed to prepare students to take Algebra 1 for high school credit as 8th graders. The students who choose to take this class will cover the 7th grade curriculum and the skills taught in 8th grade. Taking algebra early makes it possible for the student to take AP calculus as seniors.

Latin: In preparation for a high-school Latin curriculum, Aristoi seventh-graders study the foundations and architecture of English grammar, along with Greek and Latin roots and their derivatives in modern English vocabulary. Other investigations include the large-scale sweep of Roman history and culture, classical geography, Aristotelian logic, metrical patterns in poetry, and Latin's presence in modern

Western government, medicine, or science.

Music History: This is a two-semester course containing four major units of music history with elements of music theory woven throughout. The first semester will focus on the Baroque and Classical Eras of music history, and the second semester will feature units on the Romantic Era and 20th century music.

EIGHTH GRADE

U.S. History: Seminar participation, Organized debate, Research and study, Reading with purpose, Oral Recitation, Use of MLA writing format. Readings: Common Sense – Thomas Paine; Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass – Frederick Douglass.

What is the American Experiment? What are its key elements?

- Colonial Period – Jamestown, Native Americans, Education, First Great Awakening,

- The American Revolution – Causes, Military
- The Constitution – Federalists and Antifederalist, Principles of

By 1840, did the “American Experiment look like a success? What was the Founding Fathers’ vision for their country, and had their hopes been realized by the mid-nineteenth century?

- Early American Political Parties, Technology
- Jacksonian Democracy, Challenges to the Constitution, The Indian Problem
- Reform – Economics and Technology, The Second Great Awakening

Was slavery really the prime cause of the Civil War? At what point did it become inevitable?

- Origins and Causes of the Civil War
- Slavery – The Peculiar Institution
- The American Civil War

Should “Manifest Destiny” be

considered a continuation of the virtuous American Experiment?

- Reconstruction
- Westward Expansion

English: An aptitude for writing simple, compound, complex, and Compound-Complex sentences; A working knowledge of note taking strategies; An ability to determine or clarify the meaning of unfamiliar or ambiguous words using roots from Latin and Greek (Vocabulary From Classical Roots, Level B); A consistent framework for Common placing;

- Writing - Review IEW Elements, The Lost Tools of Writing I – an introduction to rhetorical tools, the complete persuasive essay.
- Novels - Animal Farm (Orwell), Fahrenheit 451(Bradbury), The Odyssey(Homer), To Kill a Mockingbird(Lee)
- Short Stories: “The Bet” – Chekov, “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment” – Hawthorn, “An Honest Thief”- Dostoyevsky, “God Sees the Truth and Waits”–

Tolstoy

- Poetics - "A Boy's Will" and "North of Boston" (Frost)

Science: Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC). The course encompasses the basic physical science which forms the foundations for the Chemistry course (tenth grade) and Physics course (eleventh grade). It includes the structure of matter, periodic table, basic chemical reactions, interactions of forces and energy transformation. The textbook for this course is Pearson's Physical Science: Concepts in Action.

Math: In 8th grade we use Math In Focus Singapore Math, course 3. Math In Focus is designed to help students gain depth of knowledge, fluency with skills, and confidence in problem solving. It employs a focus on problem solving and a concrete-visual-symbolic progression to help students build solid conceptual understanding. Mathematical problem solving is central to mathematics learning. It involves the acquisition and

application of mathematics concepts and skills in a wide range of situations, including real-world problems. In addition to the traditional 8th grade level of mathematics, Aristoi students who are ready for the abstract thinking of algebra are offered a chance to take Algebra I for high school credit. Taking algebra early makes it possible for the student to take AP calculus as seniors.

Algebra I

In Algebra 1 we use the Saxon curriculum. Algebra 1 is the first year in a four year college preparatory math sequence. It focuses on the structure of the real number system and examines symbolic representations in solving real world problems. Linear and quadratic functions, systems of equations, and problem solving are investigated. Graphing, both as a means of displaying data and analyzing data in one or two dimensions, is an integral part of this course. Review is built into every section

and unit of study. A sound foundation in arithmetic and Pre-algebra skills is essential for success in this course. The content of this course is important for students' success on their college mathematics entrance exams. Students who complete Algebra I should take Geometry the next school year.

Latin: Eighth-graders at Aristoi have the opportunity to gain a high-school Latin I credit, studying the Cambridge Latin Curriculum. Following the daily life of a Roman family and slaves in first-century Roman Pompeii, the early Cambridge lessons examine the basics of an inflected language, and uses stories to encourage both a comfortable familiarity with reading simple Latin, and a basic knowledge of the society and heritage of the Roman civilization.

Music Theater: Students in the 8th grade work together in the first semester learning performance techniques for singing and acting while also studying the history of American musical theatre. The first semester culminates in a choral

performance. During the second semester, the students work together to assemble and ultimately perform a piece of classic American musical theatre. This major production takes place in May each year.



NINTH GRADE

Humane Letters I: The Classical World to Christendom

Is the advent of Christianity in late Antiquity best viewed as a development, a repudiation, or a fulfillment of Classical civilization? Freshmen consider "Man," his nature, his capacity for good and for evil, and his destiny. Beyond the study of Western Civilization through the fall of Rome and the advent of Christianity, students develop academic aptitudes foundational to the Sequence, including dignified and productive participation in the Socratic seminar, composition of analytical essays that draw on multiple sources of authority, and close reading of literary texts, including:

- The Odyssey (Homer) and Culture and War in Classical Greece
- Histories (Herodotus)
- Greek Lives (Plutarch) on the Rise and Fall of an Independent Greek Civilization

- Nichomachean Ethics and Poetics (Aristotle) and key Platonic Dialogues
- History of Rome, Books I-V (Livy) and the Pax Romana
- St. Athanasius, St. Augustine and the Definition of Christianity

Science: The science course for ninth grade, entitled Biology, is an in depth study of the cell processes, inheritance, principles of ecology and the diversity of life. The textbook for this course is McGraw-Hill's Texas Biology.

Math: Students have the option of Algebra I or Geometry

Algebra 1

In Algebra 1 we use the Saxon curriculum. Algebra 1 is the first year in a four year college preparatory math sequence. It focuses on the structure of the real number system and examines symbolic representations in solving real world problems. Linear and quadratic functions, systems of equations, and problem solving are investigated.

Graphing, both as a means of displaying data and analyzing data in one or two dimensions, is an integral part of this course. Review is built into every section and unit of study. A sound foundation in arithmetic and Pre-algebra skills is essential for success in this course. The content of this course is important for students' success on their college mathematics entrance exams. Students who complete Algebra I should take Geometry the next school year.

Geometry

In Geometry, we use the Glencoe Geometry textbook. The Glencoe Geometry textbook uses multiple representations (words, symbols, models, and examples) to illustrate key concepts for the secondary student in Euclidean plane geometry. Euclidean geometry uses a comprehensive deductive and logical system to teach math concepts and apply them to the real world. Topics covered in this course include: lines and angles, triangles, proportions and similarity, trigonometry, quadrilaterals, circles,

and area and volume. Algebra I is a prerequisite to enrolling in Geometry. Students who complete Geometry should take Algebra II or Math Models the next school year.

Latin: The typical schedule has freshmen taking Latin II, though Latin I is available to newly enrolled students. Latin II shifts the scene of the ongoing story to the harsh frontiers of Britain and the ancient port of Egyptian Alexandria, with plots both grand and domestic in scope, and includes grammar like imperative and participle forms of verbs, the use of the subjunctive mood for indirect questions and commands, and purpose or result clauses.

Fine Arts: Students have the option of taking High School Band, Studio Art I, or Acting I

TENTH GRADE

Humane Letters II: Medieval and

Modern Europe Spanning Europe's Medieval and Modern epochs, Sophomores will journey up to the eve of World War One. Throughout their survey, students will examine the various ways the individual person has lived and moved and had his being within the overlapping memberships, loyalties, and ideas that populated European society and culture from around 400 to 1900 A.D. Skills to be honed this year will include the understanding, interpreting, and writing of poetry, the craft of literary criticism, and the recognition of logical and rhetorical fallacies. Historical and literary works studied include:

- The Song of Roland and the medieval Milieu
- The Inferno (Dante) and Medieval Milieu
- Emile (Rousseau)
- A Tale of Two Cities (Dickens)
- The Brothers Karamazov (Dostoyevsky) and Christ in the Modern World

Rhetoric: In Rhetoric I, students will

begin to "discover the available means of persuasion in any given case" by guided reading through Aristotle's Rhetoric. Students will begin the journey to become "good Men speaking well."

Science: The science course for tenth grade, entitled Chemistry, is an in depth study of chemical bonding, chemical equations and reactions, solutions and chemical equilibrium. The textbook for this course is Holt McDougal's Modern Chemistry.

Math: In Geometry, we use the Glencoe Geometry textbook. The Glencoe Geometry textbook uses multiple representations (words, symbols, models, and examples) to illustrate key concepts for the secondary student in Euclidean plane geometry. Euclidean geometry uses a comprehensive deductive and logical system to teach math concepts and apply them to the real world. Topics covered in this course include: lines and angles, triangles, proportions and similarity, trigonometry,

quadrilaterals and circles, and area and volume. Students who complete Geometry should take Algebra 2 or Math Models the next school year.

Algebra II

The textbook we use in Algebra 2 is Prentice Hall Classics Algebra and Trigonometry. This course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts. It develops advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, imaginary and complex numbers, quadratics, transformations, and includes the study of logarithmic functions. It also introduces matrices and their properties. The content of this course are important for students' success on their college mathematics entrance exams. Algebra I and Geometry are prerequisites to enrolling in Algebra II. Students who complete Algebra II should take Pre-Calculus or Math Models the next school year.

Latin: By the sophomore year a student will typically have the option of pursuing

her or his study of Latin into Latin III, or taking up study of another language. Latin III delves into more complex stories, involving the passive voice and subordinate clauses, set in the privilege and power of first-century imperial Rome, and shifts later in the year towards extracts and adaptations of famous authors.

Fine Arts: Students have the option of taking High School Band, Studio Art I or II, or Acting I or II

ELEVENTH GRADE

Humane Letters III: The American Experience. Students will develop their abilities to write and speak persuasively through a rigorous examination of American history and literature. Ideally, students will cultivate an interest in our nation's history and culture as well as a desire to be informed citizens of virtuous character.

Course texts include:

- The Great Gatsby (Scott

Fitzgerald)

- The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin (Benjamin Franklin)
- The Scarlet Letter (Hawthorne)
- A History of the American People (Paul Johnson)
- Death of a Salesman (Arthur Miller)
- Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)
- Walden and Civil Disobedience (Henry David Thoreau)
- Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Twain)
- Ethan Frome (Edith Wharton)
- The American Pageant: The History of the Republic Advanced Placement Edition
- For the Record: A Documentary History of America (Sixth Edition) (Vol. 1)
- For the Record: A Documentary History of America (Sixth Edition) (Vol. 2)

Science:

Physics

This course is an in-depth study of the

patterns and rules governing motion, forces, energy, matter, heat, sound, light, and the composition of atoms. The textbook for this course is Prentice Hall Conceptual Physics.

AP Physics 1

This course is a junior level course equivalent to introductory college-level physics. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study and hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work. Units of study for the AP Physics 1 course include kinematics, dynamics, energy, momentum, electric charge and force, and mechanical waves and sound.

Math:

Algebra 2

The textbook we use in Algebra 2 is Prentice Hall Classics: Algebra and Trigonometry. This course is designed to build on algebraic and geometric concepts. It develops advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, imaginary and

complex numbers, quadratics, transformations, and includes the study of logarithmic functions. It also introduces matrices and their properties. The content of this course are important for students' success on their college mathematics entrance exams. Algebra I and Geometry are prerequisites to enrolling in Algebra II. Students who complete Algebra II should take Pre-Calculus or Math Models the next school year.

Math Models

The textbook we use in Math Models is Pearson Mathematical Models with Applications. This course makes a connection between mathematics and the students' futures, preparing them to use mathematics in everyday life and in the work place. Solving problems that are important to them and can motivate students by helping them see that mathematics really are useful in the real world. This course is intended to reinforce, broaden, and extend the mathematical knowledge and skills acquired in algebra. The primary

purpose of this course is to use mathematics as a tool to model real-world phenomena in science, finance, music, and art. This course should help the students to maintain and extend their algebraic and geometric skills. Students who complete Math Models should take Algebra II the next school year if they have not already completed that course.

Pre-Calculus

The textbook we use for Pre-Calculus is Larson: Pre-calculus with Limits. Pre-Calculus is a course that includes algebra and trigonometry at a level which is designed to prepare students for the study of calculus. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II are prerequisites to enrolling in Pre-Calculus. Students who complete Pre-Calculus should take AP Calculus the next school year.

Latin: Many juniors continue their studies into Latin IV, including the reading and analysis of authentic period poetry and literature, such as Vergil's

Aeneid or Caesar's Gallic Wars. Those who have successfully completed two years of high-school-level Latin may instead investigate another language: currently modern Spanish or classical Greek.

Fine Arts: Students have the option of taking High School Band, Studio Art, or Theater

American Government & Economics:

- The Constitutional Basis of American Government
- Economic Tools and the Common Good
- Democratic citizenship
- Justice in an Age of Globalization

TWELVTH GRADE

Humane Letters IV: The Modern World by studying the history and representative texts of the 19th and 20th centuries students will come to a better understanding of modern Western civilization and its relationship to the Western tradition.

Course texts include

- Hard Times (Dickens)
- The Portable Nineteenth-Century Russian Reader (George Gibian, ed.)
- Norton Anthology of English Literature, Vol 2.
- Western Civilization, Volume II: Since 1500. (Jackson J. Spielvogel)
- Brideshead Revisted. (Evelyn Waugh)

Rhetoric II: Senior Thesis

Science:

Anatomy and Physiology

This course is an in-depth study of the cells, tissues, chemistry, organ systems, and the finely tuned electrical system that form our bodies and give us our capabilities. The textbook for this course is Pearson's Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology.

AP Physics C

This course is a senior level course taken concurrently with AP Calculus. Two main units are included in this course - Electricity & Magnetism and Mechanics. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study as well as hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work. Units of study for Electricity and Magnetism semester include electrostatics, electric circuits, and electromagnetism. Units for study for the Mechanics semester include kinematics, Newton's Laws of Motion, rotation, and gravitation.

Math: Students in the 12th grade can take Algebra II, Math Models, Pre-Calculus, or AP Calculus BC. AP Calculus AB is roughly equivalent to a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. AP Calculus BC is roughly equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses. It extends the content learned in AB to different types of equations and introduces the topic of sequences and series.

AP Calculus BC

The textbook we use for AP Calculus is James Stewart's Calculus: Early Transcendentals. AP Calculus AB is roughly equivalent to a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. AP Calculus BC is roughly equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses. It extends the content learned in AB to different types of equations and introduces the topic of sequences and series. The disciplines that utilize calculus include physics, engineering, economics, statistics, and medicine. It is used to create mathematical models in order to arrive at an optimal solution. Pre-Calculus is prerequisite to enrolling in AP Calculus. **Latin:** The Advanced Placement test may be an option for particularly advanced Latin IV or V students desiring recognition for college credit. As before, students who have already accomplished the school's Latin

requirement may instead explore a different language.

Fine Arts: Students have the option of taking High School Band, Studio Art, or Theater

HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

Band: Introduction to band is offered to students who desire to learn a band instrument, and Concert Ensemble is a course which focuses on ensemble work and performing. Band is an ensemble which builds teamwork and self-discipline and provides students with learning and performance opportunities on wind or percussion instruments. strongly encouraged but not required.

Choir: Choir is a performance-based ensemble with a focus on developing musicianship, self-discipline, collaboration and community, and a love for music. Students in choir will obtain the skills and experiences to become well-rounded musicians. These skills

include: vocal technique, performance, practice, sight-singing, and music theory.

Theatre: Students enrolled in Theatre will learn theatre basics and will explore and study theatre history. Advanced levels will also address refined acting technique, and principles of design and construction.

Studio Art: Students develop their ability to “see” and problem solve by drawing from direct observation and by applying techniques in a variety of classic mediums through representational, imaginative, and expressive artwork. Advanced students will build a professional portfolio of artwork.

