

# ACTS

Albemarle Christian Teaching Support, Inc.

## Course Descriptions and Teacher Information 2020-2021

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Courses are arranged in alphabetical order under each course category.

# Course Descriptions

## Art

### Art Through the Centuries

Teacher: Sunny Gritsko

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50*
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook	no
Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:	no
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	5-6
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

This is a multi-media art class using the world's great artists as inspiration. A student may take this class for up to two years (A, B) as different projects/lessons are offered each year. The class will "meet" an artist at the beginning of most sessions by looking at a famous work. They will use new art vocabulary to discuss the piece. The rest of the class period will be spent on a project building on the artist's technique, style, medium, or subject matter. The students will be getting a good general overview of art history.

Students will explore a variety of methods including painting, sculpture, printmaking, and more. Basic drawing principles will be covered using the five shape families as well as tips on portraits and figure drawing. Students can display their favorite pieces at the ACTS end-of-the-year event in May.

Materials fee will cover all supplies except a white T-shirt.

Supplies include:

- high quality brushes and paint
- paper
- clay
- tissue
- glue
- markers
- pastels
- colored pencils
- etc.

*\*The Materials fee may be paid in full at registration in May, or, \$25 per semester: \$25 at May registration, and \$25 in December for second semester materials.*

## Art

### Ceramics I

Teacher: Marvilyn Kennedy

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$75
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$50)</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	No
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	*7-12
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	no

Explore basic and advanced clay hand-building techniques to form vessels and sculptures which reflect your personal style and interests. Incorporate elements of design while creating slab, coil, pinch pot, and mixed construction pieces. Work with an array of clay tools using both additive and subtractive sculptural techniques. Learn to apply various textural, sgraffito, and glazing techniques. Pieces will be kiln-fired.

Materials fee covers tools, clay, firing costs, and glazes.

\*Grades 7-12 may register; high schoolers are given priority enrollment.

## Art

### Great Words of Art

Teacher: Adrienne Vanderveer

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	\$40
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	No
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Ideas. Words. Stories. They all bring pictures to our minds. Add the touches of an artist/illustrator, and those ideas, words and stories come to life!

Great Words of Art students will explore some great selections from young children's literature, as well as a little poetry and some illustrated Bibles, to focus not only on the value of the tale, but also on the styles, media and artistic principles that individual illustrators have used to bring an author's story to a complete celebration of his or her written words. This will include contemporary artists and illustrators as well as past artists who share similar styles and techniques.

We will touch on the basic artistic elements of line, shape, color, form, space, texture and value as the students roll up their sleeves to engage in various kinds of two and three-dimensional projects that point to the powerful connection between words well-written and creative self-expression.

These young artists will utilize a fun variety of materials such as watercolors, various types of paper, wood, oil pastel, chalk, fabric, crayon, marker, pen, pencil, ink, paints, fruit, veggies, various craft supplies, odds & ends from around the house & around the yard and any other "thingamabobs" their imaginations desire to incorporate.

Students will also have opportunities to learn and to practice basic drawing techniques to build their confidence in illustrating and creating their **own** great words of art.

- *Artists can expect completely different works of art, literature, and projects if they choose to participate both years (A and B).*
- *\*Materials Fee covers all art & craft supplies needed to complete weekly projects. as well a small personal sketchbook and folder. These are for in-class use but will go home with the students at the end of the year. Students are encouraged to dress for creativity which can often be a little messy!*
- *The teacher may occasionally request an item for a specific project that can be easily obtained at home. Advanced notice will be given via the weekly email updates if there is a request of this nature.*
- *Students will be encouraged to display some of their Great Words of Art at the end-of-year event at close of the ACTS co-op year.*

## Art

### Introduction to Studio Art

Teacher: Thomas Marsh

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$25*
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	No
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1/2 hr. +
Min/Max Students:	6/16
Grade Level:	7-8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

This course will focus on drawing as an artistic skill, a foundation for creating works of art. This is a classical approach to art education, honoring such enduring aesthetic values as beauty, form, harmony, and proportion. With the traditional basic drawing materials of charcoal and pencil, and using simple geometric forms as subject matter, the drawing principles of proportion, light and shadow, perspective, and composition will be studied and developed. These studies will lead to more complex work with still lifes, interiors, landscapes, and finally with a portrait drawing from a live model.

The educational emphasis will be on artistic discipline (hard work and practice!), and individual improvement in drawing skills. Many examples from art history will be used to illustrate the basic drawing principles.

Required materials (to be provided by student)

- 18" x 24" drawing pad
- drawing board with clips to hold 18" x 24" pad
- Kneaded eraser
- 1 small package of vine charcoal (several sticks)
- #2 traditional graphite pencils
- Soft graphite pencil (Ebony pencil or graphite stick)
- Sketchbook (9" x 12" or 8 1/2" x 11")

Materials can be purchased at Michaels in the Barracks Road shopping center. Depending on the student's artistic output, additional paper and charcoal may need to be purchased before the end of the academic year.

\* *Modeling fee (other materials provided by the student)*

## Art

### **Painting: Acrylic**

**Teacher: Sarah Otis**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1hr+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Building on skills learned in “Painting: Watercolor,” students will explore Acrylic painting. Acrylics are an incredibly versatile medium. They are water-based but dry to a waterproof finish. Using Acrylics, student artists will learn to work with an opaque medium on canvas and other surfaces. Students will study various subject matter such as still life, landscapes, figure and abstract painting. They will continue to develop skills in color, composition, and painting techniques. We will explore the creative process and continue to develop individual artistic expression.

## Art

**Painting: Watercolor**  
**Teacher: Sarah Otis**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1hr+</i>
<i>Min/Max: Students:</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Watercolor is a foundational painting skills class. Students should have some background in basic drawing skills before taking this class. Students will learn classical and contemporary watercolor painting techniques, wet on wet, dry on wet, resist techniques and brush skills. The class will spend time exploring color theory and color interaction as it applies to watercolor. Students will quickly be able to create fully finished paintings with a variety of subject matter.

### **Supply list:**

Watercolor paper (Block or pad.)  
Sketch pad  
Variety of brushes  
Watercolor paints (tube or pan.)  
Palette  
Water container  
Pencil and eraser

## Art

### Start with Art

Teacher: Marvilyn Kennedy

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	\$40*
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	No
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level</i>	K-2**
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

If your child is ready to jump into art, this is a great place to start. A student may take this class for three years, as different projects/lessons are offered each year. Most sessions begin with an introduction to an art principle, artistic style, or featured artist. Artists then combine the mini lesson with their own ideas to create unique works of art. Students are encouraged to display their favorite pieces at the end of year ACTS Celebration.

Start with Art students will have the opportunity to do the following learning activities:

- experience a variety of media including acrylic, watercolor, soft pastel, oil pastel, marker, pen/pencil, textiles, tile, recyclables, metal, plaster, clay, and natural materials;
- try various art processes such as drawing, painting, sculpture, modeling, weaving, basic stitchery, printmaking, collage, papier-mâché, mosaic, engraving, and carving;
- incorporate art elements of line, color, shape, form, value, space, and texture;
- explore design principles of balance, proportion, contrast, variety, emphasis, unity, rhythm, and pattern; and
- appreciate the art of famous artists and various cultural groups.

*\*The \$40 materials fee covers all art materials, craft supplies, utensils, smocks, sketch folders, and teaching aids.*

**\*\* No minimum age exceptions permitted. Please note that young artists need to be developmentally ready to separate from parents and participate in 30 minutes of moderately focused work.**

## Art

### Studio Art for High School

Teacher: Thomas Marsh

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$30*
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook	No
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1hr+
Min/Max Students:	6/16
Grade Level:	8+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

The drawing skills emphasis in the Introduction to Studio Art class will continue in this high school studio art class. With an initial “back to basics” approach of drawing from geometric forms using charcoal and pencil, the student will move on to more complex still lifes, interiors, and landscapes. Color theory will be introduced in projects using colored pencils and watercolor pencils. (Watercolor principles will be introduced as an **optional** project where students would need to purchase watercolor paper, brushes, tube watercolors, and a palette). The "story board" concept used in the movie industry will be introduced, using Biblical subject matter. The final projects will be portraiture: a drawing from a portrait bust, a drawing from a photo using a grid concept, a finished portrait drawing in color from a live model, and finally a relief sculpture in clay from a live model.

The educational emphasis will be on artistic discipline (hard work and practice) and individual improvement in drawing (and relief sculpture) skills. The premises of this course are classical aesthetic ideals such as beauty, form, harmony, and proportion. Many examples from art history will be used to illustrate these concepts.

Required materials (to be provided by student)

- 18” x 24” drawing pad
- drawing board with clips to hold 18” x 24” pad
- Kneaded eraser
- 1 small package of #2 black Conte Crayons OR medium compressed charcoal
- #2 traditional graphite pencils
- Soft graphite pencil (Ebony pencil or graphite stick)
- Sketchbook (9” x 12” or 8 ½” x 11”)
- Prismacolor (or equivalent) colored pencils: primary colors + black.
- 1 small packet of watercolor pencils (at least the primary colors)

Materials can be purchased at Michaels in the Barracks Road shopping center. Depending on the student’s artistic output, additional paper, etc. may need to be purchased before the end of the academic year.

*\*Modeling fee, plus materials*

## Drama

### **Advanced Drama (Grades 6+)** **Teacher: Whitney Gatesman**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	\$20
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	yes*
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/25
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem and late enrollment:</i>	Yes

Advanced Drama is geared toward all experience levels - whether you are the student who is passionate about theatre or the student who wants to explore theatre for the first time. In this class, students will learn through:

- Theatre Games
- Improvisation
- Skits
- Monologues
- Scene Analysis
- Tech Work
- Music *(for those who are interested)*
- Rehearsals & Costuming for the Christmas & Spring ACTS events

The Material Fee will cover scripts, copies, instructional supplies, various costume pieces and props for the ACTS events. (Some costume and prop supplies will be requested from home.)

\* Along with students needing to memorize lines, some assignments will require students to record their work at home and then send in for feedback/evaluation.

(This will be a 55-minute class with a 20-minute lunch period.)

## Drama

### Drama Tyme I

Teacher: Whitney Gatesman

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>yes*</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/25</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The young student will explore the world of Drama through fun theatre games, pantomime, reader's theatre, skits, music, movement, and more! The class will perform during the Christmas and spring ACTS events.

\* *memorizing*

## Drama

### Drama Tyme II

Teacher: Whitney Gatesman

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	yes*
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/25
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class, geared toward the older elementary student, goes a step further into the world of Drama. Students will explore theatre games, skits, scene work, improvisation, monologues, the components of Musical Theatre (drama, music, dance), costuming, and much more! The class will perform during the Christmas and spring ACTS events.

The Materials fee covers scripts, copies, instructional supplies, some costume materials, and craft supplies.

\* *memorizing*

## Electives

### **American Girls Rock! Teacher: Miriam Nissley Periods 2, 5, & 6**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$35)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2 hours
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	3-6
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

This class will focus on the historical American Girl dolls. Unit studies may include reading, writing, art, sewing, crafts, etc. pertaining to the timeperiod of each doll selected. There may be some homework and optional (ex. cooking) assignments to do at home. Girls do not have to own an American Girl doll to participate in the class.

Time period of historical dolls to be studied for 2020-2021:

1764 – Kaya

1854 – Kirsten

1904 – Samantha/Nellie

1963 – Melody

#### **Booklist:**

<p><b>Unit 1</b>  <u>The Journey Begins</u> - Kaya Classic 1  <u>Smoke on the Wind</u> - Kaya Classic 2</p> <p><b>Unit 2 (Central Series)</b>  <u>Meet Kirsten</u> – Book 1  <u>Kirsten Learns a Lesson</u> – Book 2  <u>Kirsten's Surprise</u> – Book 3  <u>Happy Birthday, Kirsten!</u> – Book 4  <u>Kirsten Saves the Day!</u> – Book 5  <u>Changes for Kirsten</u> – Book 6</p>	<p><b>Unit 3</b>  <u>Manners and Mischief</u> - Samantha Classic 1  <u>Lost and Found</u> – Samantha Classic 2  <u>Nellie's Promise</u></p> <p><b>Unit 4</b>  <u>No Ordinary Sound</u> – Melody Classic 1  <u>Never Stop Singing</u> – Melody Classic 2</p>
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**Note on books:** We will be covering the whole series of each doll. Most of the books listed above are from the BeForever Series. Books for retired dolls can be found used or at the library usually in the “Central Series” format. Contact Mrs. Nissley for alternate titles. The Scholastic book can be ordered online.

**Optional:** Avid readers may want to read mysteries and/or my journey books for each doll. Unit 4: Melody – Real Stories From My Time: The March on Washington, Scholastic AG Book.

**Material fees** cover copying costs for handouts, teaching aids, and most of the art & crafting supplies.

#### **Supplies needed:**

- 1 to 1 ½ inch three ring binder
- TBA (most likely things found around the home)

## Electives

### **Boys Bible Study** **Teacher: David Blaha**

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$135</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$0</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>Some</i>
<i>Min/Max: Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

How we see is how we live. In this "class" we will use the Bible as a platform to learn the heart of our Father. So often we falsely adopt the idea of Christian moralism, and even merely the ink in the Bible itself, as a substitute for true relationship with God the Father. However, the Bible actually reveals a different message to us. Jesus Himself always pointed to His Father, rarely to Himself, and never to the Bible, which did not exist at that time. And the early Christians we read about had no Bible at all. Therefore, it all boils down to relationship, but unfortunately, we all struggle in this area. The closer we can get to seeing how our true Father sees us, the healthier we are, and the healthier our relationships with others become. This will be the goal of the class.

We will explore the Bible, specifically fleshing out of it how God views us. Most well-meaning Christians are shocked when they truly discover the depth of His love for us and that it is not based on how we perform. This class will not be academic in nature, rather it will be conversational and relational. We will ask questions, maybe answer a few, and most certainly leave many unanswered for us to ponder and have the Spirit work out with us in our hearts and minds. That is how Jesus related with the disciples and many others, and He left us His Spirit to work in us, and for us.

The previous is the course description. However, my heart for these kids goes further than that. After twenty years in the public schools and now four years as a youth pastor, it is my greatest desire to help shepherd teens through the tumultuous and rocky teenage years. It is so hard to know what is real, what isn't, and who and what to trust. To help with that, we will all lean on the Spirit as we build relationships with each other and with God.

## Electives

### **Brainteasers and Other Mind Games (Year A)**

**Teacher: Linda Barnes**

<b>Semester Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$135</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$15
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>(if joining 2<sup>nd</sup> semester fee is \$5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	Some
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

**Course Description:** This course is Year A (out of a three-year cycle) for grades 6-8 and will be a fun, interactive, game and puzzle-filled class to get their minds working. They will be having too much fun to realize they are learning logic. Homework will be periodically assigned. Using various books from Critical Thinking Press, the class will work on:

Analysis Skills  
Problem Solving Skills  
Deductive Reasoning  
Reading Comprehension  
Organizational Skills  
Inferential Reasoning  
Analogies  
Vocabulary, Wording Meaning & Listening Skills  
Logic  
Brainstorming  
Flexible Thinking

These skills will help increase standardized test scores and will be useful as the student applies them to his current studies. Teamwork skills will be an important part of this class.

**Supplies:** Small 3-ring notebook for handouts, pen or pencil.

The materials fee covers copying costs.

## Electives

### **Brick Builders 1**

**Teacher: Lacey Holmes**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>Textbook</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Calling all LEGO lovers! Students will enjoy various LEGO themed activities. Class will include a devotional time which introduces our weekly themes. Activities will vary week to week between Lego games, building challenges and occasional crafts. After the activity students will get some creative building time and have the opportunity to share their creation with their peers. Come build with us!

\*\*Each student needs to supply 1 white t-shirt.

## Electives

### **Computer Coding I & II** **Teacher: Donna Richardson**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2-4
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	8-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	n/a

Computers are used in almost every vocation imaginable. An understanding of how computers are programmed is valuable knowledge for those embarking on many different career paths. It is also a lot of fun! This course will teach the basics of computer coding using the Python language. We will learn by writing lots of small applications. Computer Coding II will continue with more advanced techniques and data structures.

Computer coding is not just for young men who enjoy computer games! Approximately half of the Computer Science Engineering students at UVA are women. Computer coding is a tool that turn into a puzzle and an adventure as you design a way to make your computer do what you want it to do.

Concepts include: variables, strings, input/output, if-statements, loops, lists, dictionaries, functions, and classes.

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I or an advanced Pre-Algebra. Must have a good understanding of variables.

Homework: Students will be required to read textbook material and write code each week. They should expect 2 to 4 hours of homework per week.

*The materials fee covers cost for handouts and other class supplies.*

Textbook: **Python Crash Course- A Hands-On, Project-Based Introduction to Programming** by Eric Matthes, 2nd Edition, 2019 ISBN-10: 1-59327-928-0 ISBN-13: 978-1-59327-928-8

Other supplies needed: laptop computer to bring to class (windows operating system preferred, mac accepted) 3 ring binder with paper, pencils

## Electives

### **Creative Hospitality** **Teacher: Debbie Howard**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
(2 <sup>nd</sup> semester fee, \$40)	
Textbook:	None
Homework/Hrs a wk:	30 min-1hr.
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	7-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

Hospitality can be defined as “*the quality or disposition of receiving and treating family, friends, guests, and strangers in a warm, friendly, and generous way.*” Biblical hospitality is considered a sacred duty and includes welcoming one another into our homes and our lives.

In Creative Hospitality, we will explore practical and creative ways to **practice** hospitality in a variety of circumstances. We will incorporate hospitality themed projects/crafts/events, such as cloth napkin folding for holiday meals or parties, paper gifts/invitations/thank you notes, home decorating seasonal/holiday projects, as well as group and individual challenges for event/party *planning*. Party/Event planning will include guest considerations (including special needs), budget, theme, decorations, entertainment, and purpose of event(s). Creative Hospitality will also include service-oriented activities to honor local volunteers, community service workers, or special needs groups. Specific projects will be developed with student input. We will consider opportunities to “treat family, friends, and strangers in a warm, friendly, and generous way” in *everyday* life.

Homework will vary, but might include online research, video links, preparing a recipe at home, coordinating a family event, planning and/or performing a surprise service/kindness for a friend, neighbor, or stranger (with parental oversight), or finishing a class project.

We will have at least one group service event each semester outside of class time (details to be determined).

Materials fee will cover in-class projects. Students may occasionally be asked to bring something from home, such as pressed cloth napkins, or a prepared recipe/dish for an activity.

## Electives

### **An Introduction to Christian Theology Teacher: Tony Monaghan**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In a culture gone haywire Christianity can seem like a faint anachronism, an insubstantial historical relic ready to pass away. What do Christians actually believe anyway, and why?

Our children, as they grow up and leave our homes, are going to be faced with a societal worldview becoming more and more opposed to historic Christian belief and morality. The hope and purpose of this class is to prepare high school students to enter the broader world with a solid foundation in Christian doctrine, and new appreciation for the rich intellectual heritage of the church. Only the Bible truly answers the most basic questions of our existence: “Who are we, and who is God?”

#### The Curriculum:

The outline of the class will follow the 30 subjects in Louis Berkhof's classic short systematic theology “A Summary of Christian Doctrine.” Each chapter is dense but usually only 3 or so pages. Students will be expected to read the chapter, the corresponding sections of Packer, the appropriate biblical texts, and prepare the questions for discussion in class each week. Each week there will be a short (half page) writing assignment on a particular question raised from that chapter. There will be one major research paper.

While the class is not intended in any way to be an apologetic for a particular stream of Christian thought, one can hardly discuss Christian doctrine without discussing where some branches of Christ's church disagree with others. Louis Berkhof writes from perspective of Dutch Reformed theology of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, J.I. Packer from the perspective of late 20<sup>th</sup> century Reformed Episcopal theology. Both are careful not to limit Christianity to their particular perspectives. Both are conservative, Bible believing scholars.

Though we are going to be careful to deal peacefully with theological differences, this class *is* intended to be an apologetic for the Christian faith once for all delivered to the saints, to help prepare our children for a world which is going to ask hard questions of them.

#### *Textbooks:*

- *“A Summary of Christian Doctrine” Louis Berkhof*
- *“Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs” J.I Packer*

## Electives

### STEM 1

Teacher: Cara Kidd

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$55
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	n/a
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/21
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

A true hands-on discovery and design class that shows students how engineering affects their everyday lives. Students practice collaborating, brainstorming and the engineering design process through play! They conduct experiments, create amazing inventions, and see how science, technology, engineering and math fit together. New age/grade-level appropriate curriculum will be used to allow students to continue in the class.

The Materials Fee includes all usable materials such as, tape, pipe cleaners, cardboard, coloring utensils, scissors, paper, popsicle sticks, rubber bands, poms, books, etc. and curriculum is included for this price so there are no additional textbooks or outside costs.

Discounts offered: 1 student could receive free tuition in exchange for parent help during EACH class period.

## Electives

### **STEM 2**

**Teacher: Cara Kidd**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$55</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/21</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

A true hands-on discovery and design class that shows students how engineering affects their everyday lives. Students practice collaborating, brainstorming and the engineering design process through play! They conduct experiments, create amazing inventions, and see how science, technology, engineering and math fit together. New curriculum will be used, so as to allow students to continue on in the classes that are age/grade level appropriate.

The Materials Fee includes all usable materials such as, tape, pipe cleaners, cardboard, coloring utensils, scissors, paper, popsicle sticks, rubber bands, poms, books, etc. and curriculum is included for this price so there are no additional textbooks or outside costs.

Discounts offered: 1 student could receive free tuition in exchange for parent help during EACH class period.

## Electives

### STEAMers

Teacher: Cara Kidd

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/21</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>1-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Reading & Invention! Like a hands-on book club, this class introduces students to STEAM-themed fiction with weekly or bi-weekly invention builds, based on those books.

The Materials Fee includes all usable materials such as, tape, pipe cleaners, cardboard, coloring utensils, scissors, paper, popsicle sticks, rubber bands, poms, books, etc. and curriculum is included for this price so there are no additional textbooks or outside costs.

Discounts offered: 1 student could receive free tuition in exchange for parent help during EACH class period.

\*New curriculum will be used so as to allow students to continue on in the classes that are age/grade level appropriate.

## Electives

### Success with Chess

Teacher: Tony Monaghan

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$135</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$15
Materials Fee:	None
Textbook:	No
Homework/Hrs a wk:	No
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	3+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

#### ***Purpose:***

To play chess with each other.

To examine the game of chess and learn more about positions, strategy, and tactics. There will be a combination of playing time and teaching time. Both corporate classroom exercises and individual instruction will be included.

To prepare to send an ACTS team to some of the scholastic chess competitions in Virginia.

#### ***Why play chess?***

Chess develops a plethora of critical thinking skills. A chess player must learn to: view the entire board to see how space is attacked and defended, think ahead without the ability to move pieces (except in the mind), plan and attack, which could be a combination of five or even ten moves, gauge which pieces are vital in defense, and protect them properly.

Studies have shown that playing chess significantly improves academic achievement. See <http://www.successchess.com/SCSKnights/SAT.html> to see this documented.

Chess is plain, old-fashioned fun! You get to exercise your brain and enjoy competition at the same time.

#### ***About the class:***

As there are many different levels of players in any given class, each class will study subjects appropriate to the skill levels of particular students. There will be both individual instruction and also general instruction. Both beginners and returning students of all levels are welcome in all sections. Areas of instruction include rudimentary piece movement and advance through tactics, openings, endgame studies and overall strategies.

Chess tournaments that ACTS will send teams to are USCF (United States Chess Federation) tournaments. Students wishing to play in USCF tournaments must become USCF members. The cost for that is \$25/yr. for ages 15+, and \$19/yr. for ages up to 14. This membership includes "Chess Life" magazine. The USCF gives multiple family member discounts

## Electives - Semester

### Economics

**Teacher: Mike Henderson**

(Fall Semester Only)

<b>Semester Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$100</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$5
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2+
Min/Max Students:	9/20
Grade Level:	9+

High school Economics will give a general understanding of how our national economy works. Because economics touches our lives every day, our study will cover inflation, economic indicators, financial crisis, the federal debt, and monetary and fiscal policy. Students will use the principles of what they learn in class to apply to current events.

Classes will consist of a short quiz on the homework assignment, a lecture, note-taking, and class discussion, as well as class activities to illustrate economic concepts.

Students are expected to do the assigned reading each week at home, take notes during lectures, and participate in class discussions. Students will be assigned several short papers each semester to discuss principles learned and to analyze current events.

Tests will be based on both homework reading and class notes. Students will bring tests home for the parent to supervise and then bring them back to class for grading.

#### **Books to purchase:**

- *Whatever Happened to Penny Candy? (6<sup>th</sup> Edition)* by Richard J. Maybury
- *The Money Mystery: The Hidden Force Affecting Your Career, Business, & Investments* by Richard J. Maybury
- *The Clipper Ship Strategy for Success in Your Career, Business & Investments* by Richard J. Maybury

**Additional supplies to purchase:** Three ring binder, notebook paper, pens, pencils

## Electives – Semester

### **Foundations in Personal Finance**

**Teacher: Mike Henderson**

(Spring Semester only)

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$125</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>10+</i>

Students will learn eleven aspects of personal financial management, including investments, budgets, taxes, insurance, and real estate. Students will learn how to balance their checkbook, use a budget, save money for a car and college, build wealth, and stay out of debt.

This course is structured around video teaching by Dave Ramsey, classroom reinforcement activities, and homework. Students are tested for comprehension at the end of each unit.

At the parent's request, the teacher will issue a semester (0.5) high school economics credit.

Text: *Foundations in Personal Finance* workbook. (Provided by the teacher.)

Materials fee includes workbook and handouts.

## Electives - Semester

### **Introduction to Lincoln Douglas Debate Teacher: Dave Blaha**

(Spring Semester Only)

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$125</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>2-3</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course is a semester introduction to Lincoln–Douglas (LD) debate. LD debate is based on the famous 1858 debates of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas. Although Douglas and Lincoln debated matters of policy, the core of their advocacy always involved a clash of values. Thus, in LD debate, resolutions create a clash of competing values rather than the adoption of a specific policy.

LD debate is similar to policy debate in that competitors take turns advocating or opposing a resolution. In the LD debate format, however, participants debate one-on-one rather than in teams. During the semester, students will learn how a debate flows and how to write constructive affirmative and negative arguments as well as cross-examination and rebuttals.

Much of the class will be spent in actual debate time. We will be using the finalized yearly National Christian Forensics and Communications Association (NCFCA) debate resolution, to be announced this summer by the Home School Legal Defense Association/NCFCA debate league. Throughout the semester, debaters will gather information to strengthen their cases to more confidently argue for or against the resolution. Instead of encouraging "wrangling over words" or "finessing the truth" with rhetorical trickery, the debaters must back their argumentation with thoughtful content. The class and their research will provide an introduction into civics, finance, international relations, history, and the electoral process. It will also help them develop insight into current events.

Example NCFCA LD debate resolutions from the 2017–18 school year included the following (next years' topic will almost certainly be different, but these will provide an idea of what to expect).

- A. Resolved: Nationalism ought to be valued above globalism\*
- B. Resolved: In the realm of higher education, liberal arts ought to be valued above practical skills training.
- C. Resolved: In a just society, government ought to provide for the social welfare of its citizens.

(\* later chosen as the final national debate topic)

## Electives – Semester

### Scholastic Aptitude Test Prep

**Teacher: Linda Barnes**

(Fall Semester Only)

<b>Semester Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$100</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is the test most colleges require for entrance.

Each class will include a discussion of the text, which includes Language, Math, and the Essay. Practice questions and strategies for improving test scores will be discussed. Homework will include sections of the text, as assigned. Additional tests will be provided for the classroom work. Having students practice together in the classroom will help them encourage one another to confidently prepare for the test. Students will be ready to take the test in the winter of 2021.

**Textbook:** *Official SAT Study Guide (2020 Edition)* (College Board) available at Amazon.com or other online sources. Each student needs his own copy.

**Supplies:** 1-inch, 3-ring binder, #2 pencils (no mechanical pencils), and scientific calculator. Check [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) for their calculator policy.

**Credit:** No high school credit is given for this course. However, the class ought to be listed on the student's transcript in the area where other extracurricular activities and classes are listed.

➤ The materials fee covers copying costs.

## Electives – Semester

### Speech

**Teacher: Dan Gritsko**

(Fall Semester Only)

<b><i>Semester Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$80</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>2+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course for 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders will help students develop public speaking confidence and skills.

#### Overview:

- We will start by examining the importance of developing communication skills
- Weekly in class participation to include prepared speeches, discussions, acting, and many other forms of speech
- Speech preparation, research, course reading will be 1-2 hours per week
- Learning the skills of effective speech and evaluation

Course goal: Students to improve speech skills, confidence, and motivation to use their God given gifts to impact others around them

The materials fee will be used for copies and handouts

## Foreign Language

<b>Introduction to American Sign Language for High Schoolers</b> <b>Teacher: Glenda Atkins</b>	<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
	<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
	<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
	<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
	<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1+hrs
	<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
	<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-12

As the title of the class implies, this is an *introduction* to American Sign Language. We will start with the assumption that students have no prior experience with ASL. The goal of the class is to teach students how to communicate with the Deaf and Hard-of Hearing.

Students will learn the basics of this language: fingerspelling, vocabulary, and grammar. We will also discuss aspects of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing culture and history. We will use a textbook with illustrations for some lessons and as a reference. Class will consist of discussions, some videos, activities, games, and LOTS of class participation.

Students will need to practice signing at least 3 days a week (preferably with another signer, if possible). The amount of time will vary, but 15-20 minute sessions are a good start. ASL is not easy and must be practiced regularly.

Everyone will need the textbook, a three-ring binder for lessons, as well as paper, and pencil for keeping notes.

Textbook: "A Basic Course in American Sign Language" by [Tom Humphries](#) (Author), [Carol Padden](#) (Author), [Terrence J. O'Rourke](#) (Author), [Frank A. Paul](#) (Illustrator). (I have found this book on Amazon. I suggest the spiral-bound paperback.)

## Foreign Language

<b>Introduction to American Sign Language for Middle Schoolers</b> <b>Teacher: Glenda Atkins</b>	<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
	<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
	<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
	<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
	<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1+hrs
	<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
	<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-8

As the title of the class implies, this is an *introduction* to American Sign Language. We will start with the assumption that students have no prior experience with ASL. The goal of the class is to teach students how to communicate with the Deaf and Hard-of Hearing.

Students will learn the basics of this language: fingerspelling, vocabulary, and grammar. We will also discuss aspects of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing culture and history. We will use a textbook with illustrations for some lessons and as a reference. Class will consist of discussions, some videos, activities, games, and LOTS of class participation.

Students will need to practice signing at least 3 days a week (preferably with another signer, if possible). The amount of time will vary, but 15-20 minute sessions are a good start. ASL is not easy and must be practiced regularly.

Everyone will need the textbook, a three-ring binder for lessons, as well as paper, and pencil for keeping notes.

Textbook: "A Basic Course in American Sign Language" by [Tom Humphries](#) (Author), [Carol Padden](#) (Author), [Terrence J. O'Rourke](#) (Author), [Frank A. Paul](#) (Illustrator). (I have found this book on Amazon. I suggest the spiral-bound paperback.)

## Foreign Language

### French II

Teacher: Lisa Sheffield

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	no

This is an intermediate high school level French class. Students will increase their command of the language through listening, reading, writing, and lots of speaking. We will be covering grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, French culture, translation, and literature. Use of videos, music, games, and hands on activities as well as homework to solidify learning. Students will memorize Bible verses as well as experience French cuisine.

Required: Discovering French Blanc 2007 edition

Additional Materials: 3 ring binder for keeping photocopies, homework, and either colored pencils or highlighters.

## Foreign Language

**Middle School French**  
**Teacher: Lisa Sheffield**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes*</i>

Middle School French is a fun, interactive introductory French course through hands on activities, videos, games, and lots of practice speaking. We will learn French in units that include Cooking, Building a City, and Myself & Family. We will focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. By the end of the course, students should be able to introduce themselves and their family, respond to basic conversational prompts regarding weather, time, eating, their daily routine, and have acquired a healthy vocabulary from our units. We will also discuss culture from various French speaking countries, memorize Bible verses, and a French song or poem. I choose to immerse rather than use a textbook for this age, yet I will provide worksheets and vocabulary each week as homework.

Materials: Three ring notebook for keeping photocopies and homework.

\*2<sup>nd</sup> semester enrollment is up to teacher discretion

## Foreign Language

**Spanish K-2**

**Teacher: Miriam Nissley**

**Periods 1, 4**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25*
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs a wk:	optional
Min/Max Students:	5/15
Grade Level:	K-2
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Objectives of this course:

- To instill a love of learning in each child
- To develop an interest in learning a foreign language
- To build vocabulary words as a foundation for further learning
- To study Spanish-speaking countries and their cultures

This elementary Spanish course is designed to be a three-year course for kindergarten through second grade. Students can join the class at any time in the three-year rotation. New vocabulary lists will be introduced each year with minimal overlap using art, music, games, or other activities. Studying Spanish-speaking countries will expand the students' horizons as they learn about the location, geography, foods, and cultures of various places.

Material fees cover lesson cards, hand-outs, worksheets, games, flashcards, markers, crayons, colored pencils, paints, craft supplies, and country folder for country studies, CD's for class use and any other teaching aids needed.

Supplies needed:

- 1 to 1 ½ inch three ring binder
- Binder pockets (to store odd-sized hand-outs)
- Roomy pencil case for games.

## Foreign Language

### Spanish 3-5

Teacher: Carol Henderson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1/2 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5**
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	no

This Upper Elementary course will introduce your child to Spanish using vocabulary from a child's everyday life. Students may join the class any year in the 2-year rotation. Because of the fast pace of this class, students in 3rd Grade must have previously taken ACTS Elementary Spanish or its equivalent.

Students will interact with their classmates to practice speaking simple Spanish sentences and expressions. Corresponding written work will be assigned as homework. Short Spanish reading selections are given on a regular basis. Concepts are reinforced through Bible memory, songs, and games.

***\*\*Please note that your child must be a fluent reader (in English!) before taking this class.***

The Materials Fee covers Spanish Mini-Magazines, flashcard supplies, copying expenses for handouts, and other supplies and prizes for classroom games and activities.

#### Additional Items to Purchase:

- 3-ringed Binder
- 5-tabbed Dividers
- A small set of Colored Pencils
- Roomy Pencil Case (for colored pencils and flashcards)

Please Note : Because your child will receive many handouts every week, it is very important that your child have a separate binder for Spanish class (as opposed to a section in a binder that is shared with another class).

## Foreign Language

**Spanish 5-8 Level I**  
**Teacher: Martha Young**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$14.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-2</i>
<i>Min/Max: Students:</i>	<i>6/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In this course, students will learn basic vocabulary for communication as well as simple grammar and verb forms. We will focus on an appreciation and a curiosity about the lives of Spanish speaking peoples, while integrating conversation and reading recognition. Includes fun learning activities, games, and prizes to reinforce the lesson!

Textbook: Easy Spanish Step-By –Step, approximately \$12.95, available from the teacher

## Foreign Language

### Spanish 6-8 Level II

Teacher: Martha Young

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$14.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This course is a continuation of Level I. We will continue to add vocabulary and will study more complex grammar and verb forms. Study of Spanish speaking cultures will be included.

Textbook: Easy Spanish Step-By –Step, approximately \$12.95, available from the teacher

## Foreign Language

### Spanish Simply Level 1

Teacher: Maria Nootbaar

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs a wk:</i>	2-2.5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	no

Spanish Simply 1 is a high school level foreign language class. The first quarter of the year will be spent instilling the sounds and spellings of Spanish as well as the concept of nouns having gender. By the end of the year, students will have grown their vocabulary, begun to master sentence structure, and mastered the present tense. They will be able to correctly pronounce any word in Spanish with little or no English accent. They will also learn bits of culture, taste some foods, and have fun along the way!

Text: Spanish for Mastery 1 by Valette and Valette

## Foreign Language

### Spanish Simply Level II Teacher: Maria Nootbaar

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	2-2.5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	no

Spanish Simply 2 is a continuation of Spanish Simply 1. Students in this class will have completed Spanish Simply 1 successfully. Exceptions may be made for students with other high school Spanish experience per teacher approval. The first four classes of the year will be an intense review of Spanish Simply 1. By the end of the school year, students will have amplified their vocabulary, grown their understanding of Spanish grammar rules and sentence structure, and mastered both past tenses in Spanish (this is the most complicated concept for English speakers learning Spanish). They will have a good understanding of other verb tenses and moods. They will also read short stories, learn bits of culture, taste some foods, and have fun along the way!

Text: Spanish for Mastery 2 by Valette and Valette

## Geography

### Explore World Geography 3-5: Year 1 Teacher: Debbie Howard

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	30min-1hr.
Min/Max Students:	8/15
Grade Level:	3-5
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

World Geography Expedition will be a fascinating journey through God's world in 32 weeks! We will introduce geography vocabulary, tools, maps, and navigation, and explore a few countries/regions of each continent. We will explore native animals, natural geography, traditional foods, and special customs/holidays of other children across the globe.

Class time will include a variety of individual and group hands-on activities, map and atlas work, games, and interactive lesson time.

Weekly homework may include worksheets, maps, online video links/activities, and optional enrichments activities. A student notebook will be provided.

Materials fee covers supplies for class hands-on activities and games, special class events, and food samples, as well as student class notebook and specific handouts; atlas not included.

#### Required Reference/Text

- **DK Smithsonian Children's Illustrated World Atlas**, ISBN: 9781465435552
- *Homework assignments and class activities will reference specific topics and/ or page numbers from **this Atlas**. (We will use the same atlas for both World Geography Expedition, grades 3-5 and TRAVEL World Geography, grades 6-8.)*
- I will make a group purchase for the atlas and will collect order/payment during registration for *anyone who would like to participate* in the group order. With group discount and free shipping, the cost of each atlas will be \$11.55 including sales tax. Please submit a separate check for this amount noting "Atlas" and student name on the reference line. Do not add it to a check for materials fee or tuition, as it will process separately, and the check will be your "order form."

## Geography

**Travel World Geography 6-8: Year 1**  
**Teacher: Debbie Howard**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	10/25
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

### **NOTE: INTERNET ACCESS REQUIRED.**

TRAVEL World Geography will introduce geography skills and tools, maps, navigation, and terminology/vocabulary. After that, we will concentrate on a few countries/regions of each continent, exploring the natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, language, history, and current events. We will use the required atlas (noted below) for reference and select travel/tourism/educational websites for VIRTUAL exploration/discovery. **NOTE: INTERNET ACCESS REQUIRED for homework!**

Interactive class time will include hands-on activities and students will share/present assigned research of specific topics in class/group discussions and projects. Additionally, students will complete group and/or individual projects in which they will research and plan all the details of a trip including travel, accommodations, itinerary, and budget.

Weekly homework assignments will vary, but could include mapping, worksheets, research, online video links and websites, and/or online quizzes and activities. Some assignments will need to be printed at home.

Materials fee covers supplies for class hands-on activities and games, special class events, and food samples, as well as student class notebook and specific handouts; atlas not included.

#### Required Reference/Text

- **DK Smithsonian Children's Illustrated World Atlas**, ISBN: 9781465435552
- *Homework assignments and class activities will reference specific topics and/or page numbers from **this Atlas**. (We will use the same atlas for both World Geography Expedition, grades 3-5 and TRAVEL World Geography, grades 6-8.)*
- I will make a group purchase for the atlas and will collect order/payment during registration for *anyone who would like to participate* in the group order. With group discount and free shipping, the cost of each atlas will be \$11.55 including sales tax. Please submit a separate check for this amount noting "Atlas" and student name on the reference line. Do not combine it on a check with materials fee or tuition, as it will process separately, and the check will be your "order form."

## Geography

### World Geography & Cultures K-2

Teacher: Carol Henderson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$20
Materials Fee:	\$20
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs a wk:	no
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	K-2
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

In the K-2 World Geography & Cultures class, your child will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

For a complete list of what countries are studied and when, please go to the ACTS website and click on “Assignments & Downloads” and then click on “Carol Henderson.”

Class time consists of the students finding and coloring that week’s country on a map, putting the appropriate flag sticker in their “Passport,” learning about the country’s landmarks, people, customs, and highlights from books and pictures, and creating a corresponding craft to take home. Children will often bring home a coloring sheet on the country to reinforce his or her learning experience.

Every year at Christmas, children will enjoy a special “Christmas Around the World” celebration as we look at different Christmas traditions around the globe.

The materials fee covers the passports, flag stickers, supplies for the weekly crafts & activities, and photocopying of weekly maps, coloring pages, and other handouts.

#### Additional Items to Purchase:

- 1) Please purchase a **3-ring binder** for this class.  
Students will be making their own tabbed dividers for the binder as one of our class projects.

## History

**Adventures in World History:  
Renaissance to Present  
Teacher: Richard Nootbaar**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
Textbook:	yes*
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1 – 1 ½ hr.
Min/Max Students:	6/18
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Real historians are like detectives: they may have many clues, but it is a challenge to put them together to form a convincing picture about how and why history has developed the way it has. This course enables high school students to become detectives of the past as they study the period from the European Renaissance to the Modern Era. They will examine the people, ideas and events that have been instrumental in creating the world these young people are inheriting. With a better understanding of the past, they will be in a much better position to affect positive change in their lifetimes. We will study the intellectual and artistic advancements of the Renaissance, the development of modern nations, the Age of Discovery, the Protestant Reformation, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, The Industrial Revolutions, World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and recent regional conflicts. This course will continue where Adventures in World History: The Ancient Age concluded, yet may be taken without any prerequisite. This course is taught from a Christian perspective: although many events may be inscrutable to us, God is an active participant in human affairs and is always in control.

The course consists of one 55-minute class each week and corresponding homework assignments based on class lectures and required readings in the textbook. **This course is equivalent to a one-year history course in a school setting.**

### Textbook

Spielvogel, Jackson J., *World History: The Human Odyssey*, Lincolnwood, IL: National Textbook Company, 1999.

## History

### Cool Early Modern History, 1600-1850

(Grades 6-8)

Teacher: Julia Nalle

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-3hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Sixth- through eighth graders are going to enjoy watching World History, U.S. History and Church History unfold in Cool Early Modern History.

This course covers U.S. and World History, 1600-1850, with Missionary Highlights. Your students will cover (1) New World colonists in Virginia, New England and New France; (2) The American Revolution, America's Founding Fathers and the Constitution of the United States; (3) France's aristocracy, the French Revolution and Napoleon; (4) The vast British empire, its domination of India and its Opium Wars in China; (5) America's Westward expansion, Manifest Destiny, the Mexican-American War and the California Gold Rush; (6) American folk heroes like Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, Sam Houston and Kit Carson; and (7) Topics from Spain, Russia, China, Japan, Africa, Mexico, Haiti, South America and many other places. Students will also watch the gospel spreading to the ends of the earth through the work of great missionaries like Charles Wesley, George Whitefield and many others.

Class time will include discussion, map work and plenty of fun activities to bring history to life.

Geography is an important part of this class: Throughout the year, students will watch the borders of the world shift as wars are fought and land changes hands over and over again. They will also be learning the countries of Africa as a fun weekly challenge!

The \$50.00 materials fee covers the student's maps, question pages, fun activities, prizes, copying and other materials for the year.

Each week's homework will include (1) reading the assigned chapters, (2) completing a Cool History assignment sheet with questions to reinforce the reading, and (3) completing a Hands-On Map assignment. Students will also prepare and present one report on a historical figure or event from Modern History.

Students will be expected to purchase either one of the two textbook options for a discounted price:

Textbooks:

- *Remember the Days; Book Three, Early Modern Days* – This is a story form book written primarily for grades K-7 - Hardback book will cost approximately 35.00 and the e-book will cost approximately 25.00.

**OR**

- *BiblioPlan Companion for Modern America and the World: U.S. and World History, 1850-2000 (with Missionary Highlights)* – This is a full text written primarily for grades 7-12

*Parents will receive a discount code in order to purchase their textbook either from the website ([www.biblioplan.net](http://www.biblioplan.net)) or at parent orientation. Please do not purchase until the code has been given. The code and other information will be e-mailed to you at the beginning of August.*

## History

### Cool Ancient History (Grades 6-8)

Teacher: Julia Nalle

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Sixth- through eighth graders are going to enjoy watching World History and Bible History unfold in Cool Ancient History. This course covers Ancient and Biblical History from Creation to the Fall of Rome. Your students will cover: (1) The Bible story from Creation through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; (2) The ancient Mediterranean and Fertile Crescent civilizations of Israel, Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Greece and Rome; and (3) Other ancient civilizations in China, India and the Americas.

Class time will include discussion, map work and plenty of fun activities to bring history to life.

Geography is an important part of this class: Throughout the year, students will watch the borders of the world shift as wars are fought and land changes hands over and over again. They will also be learning the countries of Africa as a fun weekly challenge!

The \$50.00 materials fee covers the student's maps, question pages, fun activities, prizes, copying and other materials for the year.

Each week's homework will include (1) reading the assigned chapters, (2) completing a Cool History assignment sheet with questions to reinforce the reading, and (3) completing a Hands-On Map assignment. Students will also prepare and present one report on a historical figure or event from Modern History.

Students will be expected to purchase either one of the two textbook options for a discounted price:

Textbooks:

- *Remember the Days; Book One, Ancient Days* – This is a story form book written primarily for grades K-8 - Hardback book will cost approximately 35.00 and the e-book will cost approximately 25.00.

**OR**

- *BiblioPlan Companion for Ancient History: Ancient and Biblical History from Creation to the Fall of Rome (with World Geography)* – (This will be e-book only and for only those students needing high school credit)

*Parents will receive a discount code in order to purchase their textbook either from the website ([www.biblioplan.net](http://www.biblioplan.net)) or at parent orientation. Please do not purchase until the code has been given. The code and other information will be e-mailed to you at the beginning of August.*

## History

### **Government and Presidential History – Year B Teacher: Bethany Hamner**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-5*</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>no</i>

In Government and Presidential History, your student will gain an understanding of how our government works. We will begin by studying the three branches of government (executive, legislative, and judicial). We will also learn about the White House, Pentagon, Library of Congress, and other important buildings in Washington D.C. Finally, we will learn about all our presidents during this 2-year course. At the end of the year, students will pick their favorite president from that year and do a living history report. By the end of Year B, we will have completed a Presidential History Scrapbook for each student to bring home.

Field trips, not associated with ACTS, may be planned as well. Possible field trips include Monticello, Montpelier, Highland, and the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum.

As an incentive for your student to complete their weekly homework, there will be weekly prizes. As an added bonus, if your child completes all of his or her homework, there will be a drawing for a free ticket to one of the field trips.

Material fees include: three ring binder for scrapbook, color copies, black and white copies, games, posters, poster board, glue sticks, scissors, and other materials.

\* I will make age exceptions since this is a 2-year course.

## History

**Hands on History:  
Ancient History (Year 1)  
Teacher: Carol Henderson**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>½ hr. + reading</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/ 14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Each class will begin with a review of the homework material, adding corresponding figures to Timeline Pages. The hands-on project is based on the week's topic. These projects include creating a clay cartouche with the student's hieroglyphic name, making reproduction Greek & Roman shields, constructing King Tut's burial mask, and watching & analyzing the progression of the Battle of Marathon in a child-appropriate film done with video game technology.

For homework, the student must read the assigned textbook chapter. The student will also be expected to read a book outside of the textbook 3X per year, and to share this with the class in a brief, casual presentation when assigned. Besides reading, homework may also include handouts to complete or Map Worksheets to shade, label, &/or find & circle locations. The Map Worksheets are included in the Materials Fee and do not need to be purchased separately.

On the first day, students will create their own set of Timeline Pages to be used throughout the year and kept in the back of their binders. The cost of supplies for this is covered in the materials fee.

In lieu of tests and exams, the class will have Review Games that require additional study time. The competition fosters a motivation to study, and the game is structured to reward individual achievement.

The \$30 materials fee covers craft supplies for the weekly projects and the photocopying of all maps, timeline figures, and handouts. Concentrated effort has been made to keep this fee low through strategic purchasing and through utilizing donated or household items as much as possible.

Required Textbook & Supplies to Purchase:

- Textbook: The Story of the World, History for the Classical Child, Volume 1 **OR** BiblioPlan's **Remember the Days: Ancient Days** (Please see Julia Nalle for a discount!)
- 3-ring binder
- 1 set of colored pencils is preferred for map homework

## History

### **Hands-On History: Early Modern America and the World (Grades 3-6)** **Teacher: Julia Nalle**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/16
Grade Level:	3-6
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Third through sixth graders are going to have a blast this year traveling through the Early Modern world! This Hands-On History course covers U.S. and World History, 1600-1850, with Missionary Highlights. Your students will cover (1) New World colonists in Virginia, New England and New France; (2) The American Revolution, America's Founding Fathers and the Constitution of the United States; (3) France's aristocracy, the French Revolution and Napoleon; (4) The vast British empire, its domination of India and its Opium Wars in China; (5) America's Westward expansion, Manifest Destiny, the Mexican-American War and the California Gold Rush; (6) American folk heroes like Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, Sam Houston and Kit Carson; and (7) Topics from Spain, Russia, China, Japan, Africa, Mexico, Haiti, South America and many other places. Students will also watch the gospel spreading to the ends of the earth through the work of great missionaries like Charles Wesley, George Whitefield and many others.

Class times will include discussion, map work and plenty of fun activities to bring history to life.

Geography is an important part of this class: Throughout the year, students will be working on learning the names and locations of the states and countries they encounter in class.

The \$50.00 materials fee covers the student's maps, question pages, fun activities, prizes, copying and other materials for the year.

Students will be expected to purchase the following textbook for a discounted price:

Textbook to Purchase:

- *Remember the Days, History for Junior Readers: Early Modern Days* by Rob and Julia Nalle. Hardback book will cost approximately 35.00 and the e-book will cost approximately 25.00.

Each week's homework will include (1) reading the assigned chapters, (2) completing a Cool History assignment sheet with questions to reinforce the reading, and (3) completing a Hands-On Map assignment. Students will also prepare and present one report on a historical figure or event from Modern History.

*Parents will receive a discount code in order to purchase their textbook either from the website ([www.biblioplan.net](http://www.biblioplan.net)) or at parent orientation. Please do not purchase until the code has been given. The code and other information will be e-mailed to you at the beginning of August*

## History

### **U.S. Government**

**Teacher: Richard Nootbaar**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$270</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/25</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

### Description

Every civilization has a system of government that directs and orders people's lives and provides procedures for making decisions. This is certainly true of the United States of America. Our nation is unique, however, in that the founding fathers created the first enduring democracy in modern history. Further, our federal government became the blueprint for the governments of virtually every nation in the world. Wow, we achieved something really awesome here! This course, intended for tenth to twelfth graders, explores our government's structures and procedures: their intended ideals, as well as how they actually operate in the real world of politics. While it admires its achievements, it also critically examines ways in which it may not always function so well.

The primary goal is that students learn how federal, state, and even local governments function and the many ways public policy is made. While I do want students to know the historical development of our government, along with its religious and philosophical underpinnings, I most want students to know our government in the way an auto mechanic knows a car: what enables its many parts to function together, and what factors cause it sometimes to malfunction? I want to emphasize that this is absolutely not a course in political ideology, but I do hope it sparks in students a lifelong interest in government, law, and public policy.

### Course Materials

A textbook is yet to be determined, but the syllabus will not strictly follow the textbook; a wide variety of sources, both online and photocopied, will be provided. Homework assignments will vary and include weekly assignments as well as small projects.

## History

**United States History:**  
**Teacher: Richard Nootbaar**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 – 1 ½ hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes*

Real historians are like detectives: they may have many clues, but it is a challenge to put them together to form a convincing picture about how and why history has developed the way it has. This course enables high school students to become detectives of the past as they study the period from the European Renaissance to the Modern Era. They will examine the people, ideas and events that have been instrumental in creating the world these young people are inheriting. With a better understanding of the past, they will be in a much better position to affect positive change in their lifetimes. We will study the intellectual and artistic advancements of the Renaissance, the development of modern nations, the Age of Discovery, the Protestant Reformation, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, The Industrial Revolutions, World Wars I and II, the Cold War, and recent regional conflicts. This course will continue where *Adventures in World History: The Ancient Age* concluded, yet may be taken without any prerequisite. This course is taught from a Christian perspective: although many events may be inscrutable to us, God is an active participant in human affairs and is always in control.

Note: There is no prerequisite. Students may take this course without having taken World History: The Ancient Era.

Materials fee: covers photocopying and materials for in-class experiments and projects

*Textbook to Purchase:* "The American Vision" by Appleby, Brinkley, etc. Glencoe/McGraw-Hill; 1 edition (January 21, 2010)

*\*2<sup>nd</sup> semester enrollments must have teacher approval*

## History

### World War II

Teacher: David Blaha

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	see below
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes*

World War II was a landmark event in human history, the direct roots of which are traced to the French Revolution and Napoleonic era of Europe, with far-reaching reverberations still playing out on the world scene today. In this class, we will explore the geopolitical and worldview clashes preceding the war, the events and struggles during the war, and its aftermath which has been the primary shaper of the world alignment today. Topics to be covered include (but not limited to):

1. European political situation and World War I
2. Japanese Imperialism
3. Rise of modern tyranny - fascism and communism
5. Reluctant superpower - U.S. entry into the war
6. Technological factors - Industrial Revolution social factors and military implications
7. Progression of the war
8. Politics of war
9. Holocaust
10. End of war and consequences

Prerequisite (advised, but not required) - some type of course in modern world history

Materials: Three -ringed binder, minimum 1.5 inch

There is a moderate amount of reading involved. In addition to the materials fee, each student will need to purchase two books at about the midpoint of the school year. Each will cost approximately \$20.

## Language Arts: Literature

### Adventures in Literature (Year 2)

Teacher: Linda Barnes

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$20
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	See below
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	5-8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	w/teacher approval

**Course Description:** This class is **Year Two** of a three-year cycle of fun reading that will assist students in studying the elements of great literary pieces from a variety of genres. Students will read novels and answer questions or prepare projects in preparation for class discussions of character development, themes, writing styles, etc., and may enter the cycle at any year.

If a student is a “reluctant reader”, a parent is welcome to help with the reading assignments and questions. You may read it out loud or use an audio book.

#### Book List—Year 2

Students need to have their *own* copy of each book. (The library is **not** a good source for these books.) Your student will not start reading these books until assigned in class. Please get the full edition, not a condensed version, unless otherwise noted. I may have a few books to loan.

*The Magician’s Nephew*, C.S. Lewis (203 pages)

*The Hawk that dare not Hunt by Day*, Scott O’Dell, ISBN #0-89084-368-6 (182 pages)

*Hans Brinker or The Silver Skates*, Mary Mapes Dodge, ISBN # 0-87552-725-6 (or 9-780875-527253) *edited by Kathryn Lindskoog*. Also available at [www.prpbooks.com](http://www.prpbooks.com). Only this version works for the class.

*Julie*, Jean Craighead George, ISBN #0-06-440573-7 (This is **not** *Julie of the Wolves*)

*Greyfriars Bobby*, Eleanor Atkinson (Puffin Book-1962 ISBN#01403010666 (219 pages). There are newer versions available. Get one that has a similar number of pages.

*Watership Down (2005)*, Richard Adams, ISBN #0743277708 or #9780743277709

*Swallows and Amazons (Godine Storyteller)*, Arthur Ransome, ISBN # 9780879235734

**Supplies:** A 1-inch wide 3-ring binder, dictionary—digital is best, but not one that uses the internet, the book, and a pen or pencil.

## Language Arts: Literature

### American Literature 8-10 Teacher: Dr. Susan Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$25
<i>(if joining 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	provided
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2-4
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	8-10
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

American Literature is a course designed to introduce 8th to 10th-grade students to classic works of American literature. Students will read selections from a variety of genres, including fiction, poetry, drama, and film. They will become familiar with literary principles and terms. Although the course does not have an essay-writing component, students will have an opportunity to explore their understanding of their reading by responding to short-answer questions and some discussion questions. Students will be expected to participate in class and occasionally discuss important ideas about the works in small groups.

We will take a chronological tour of classic American literature, starting from the beginnings of American literature, where we will look at some writings of early explorers, women who were held captive by Indians (Native Americans), writings of pioneers, and slaves, and on into modern times. Notable authors include Mark Twain, Emily Dickinson, William Faulkner, and Ernest Hemingway, among others.

Shorter works of literature (poetry and short stories) will be bound in a book I will provide (and which is covered by the materials fee). Novels should be purchased or borrowed. Students will need a notebook for taking notes and keeping handouts.

Novels: *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Red Badge of Courage*, *The Call of the Wild*, *The Old Man and the Sea*. Films: *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder, *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*.

## Language Arts: Literature

**British Literature and  
Composition**  
**Teacher: Dr. Susan Sigalas**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	Provided
Homework/Hrs a wk:	5+
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

British Literature and Composition is a college preparatory course designed to prepare 10th to 12th-grade students for college-level writing about literature. This survey class will focus on reading fiction, drama, and poetry and learning to write analytically about great works of literature. Students will learn literary terms and principles that will enhance their ability to understand and write about literature. They will learn to construct essays using evidence from the texts they have read and from secondary sources.

Students will take a chronological tour of classic British literature, starting with works such as *Beowulf* and “The Dream of the Rood.” *The Canterbury Tales*, *Hamlet*, and the Romantic poets and novelists will fill out the year, concluding with C. S. Lewis’s *The Screwtape Letters*.

Students should buy hard copies of the books for this course to have in class for reference and taking notes each Monday. I will provide a bound book of shorter works, such as poetry, including Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and selections from *The Canterbury Tales*.

Students will write five literary analysis essays during the year, learning the importance of the writing process, thesis statement development, organization, documentation of sources, and peer evaluation. Grammar will be addressed on an as-needed basis.

Students will need a notebook for taking notes and keeping handouts. Books to borrow or purchase: *Beowulf* (translation by Seamus Heaney), *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare (any printing), *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte, and *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis.

## Language Arts: Literature

**Fantasy & Faith: The  
Literature of Lewis & Tolkin  
Teacher: Laura Ford**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$20
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2+
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien were not just two of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's great writers of fantasy literature. They were also great friends who challenged each other's faith and work. The first semester will focus on the writings of Lewis, and the second semester will focus on Tolkien. We will examine both men's style, technique, and purpose.

Students should be strong readers as this is a reading-intensive course. While students will not write essays, they will read and respond weekly to literature through homework, quizzes, and presentations. Class participation is a required component as well.

Required books for Fall Semester are authored by C.S. Lewis:

- *The Magician's Nephew*
- *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*
- *The Last Battle*
- *The Great Divorce*
- *Till We Have Faces*

The book list for Spring Semester is authored by J.R.R. Tolkien:

- *The Hobbit*
- *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*
- *Tales from the Perilous Realm*; ISBN 978-0-00-728059-9

## Language Arts: Literature

### Novel Adventures K-1: Year 1 Teacher: Debbie Howard

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$35
<i>(if joining 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, \$35)</i>	
Textbook:	None
Homework/Hrs a wk:	15-30 min.
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	K-1
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes

Literature provides a novel adventure for each of us as we bring a unique individual perspective to each experience. In Novel Adventures, we will enjoy a wide variety of childhood favorites such as classic children's literature (The Story about Ping by Marjorie Flack), seasonal favorites (Cranberry Thanksgiving by Wendy and Harry Devlin), poetry (Stopping by Woods on a Snow Evening by Robert Frost), and picture books (The Snowman by Raymond Briggs).

We will read and discuss each book in class and explore specific themes and topics introduced through a variety of hands-on activities. For example, with The Story about Ping, we might learn about ducks, practice using chopsticks, make a Chinese Lantern, write numbers in Chinese, discover the origin of the fortune cookie (you may be surprised!), or explore buoyancy, in addition to studying the culture and geography of China.

*A student reading log/journal will be provided, and **optional** homework may include online and library resources, online video links, recipes to make at home, and/or other enrichment activities.*

Materials fee covers supplies for hands-on activities and games, special class events, food samples, class worksheets/handouts, and a student reading log/journal.

A reading list and schedule for the year will be provided at Orientation.

## Language Arts: Literature

### Novel Adventures 2-4: Year 1

Teacher: Debbie Howard

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, \$25)</i>	\$35
<i>Textbook:</i>	book list
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	2-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Literature provides a novel adventure for each of us as we bring a unique individual perspective to each experience. In Novel Adventures, we will enjoy exploring a handful of wonderful chapter books together in class and through specific homework assignments. We will learn to recognize plot and character development and understand new vocabulary, but more importantly, ENJOY literature. Our books are listed below in anticipated schedule order. It was not an easy task to limit our section to only five titles!

Students will need their own copies of each book to read at home. Audiobooks and family read aloud options are encouraged. A student dictionary is recommended for vocabulary work at home, print would be preferred, but digital would be fine.

In addition to discussing the books in class, we will have a variety of hands-on activities related to the reading and/or homework.

**Homework will include weekly reading assignments** (or audiobooks/reading aloud). Other assignments might include entries in the student reading journal (provided), defining vocabulary terms, completing worksheets, online quiz or activities, occasional video links, optional recipes to make at home, and/or other enrichment activities.

Materials fee covers supplies for class hands-on activities and games, special class events, food samples, and a student reading journal; books not included.

Book List (in *anticipated* schedule order)

- My Father's Dragon ISBN-10: 0486492834 OR ISBN-13: 978-0486492834
- The Whipping Boy ISBN-10: 006295346X OR ISBN-13: 978-0060521226
- The Best Christmas Pageant Ever ISBN-10: 0064402754 OR ISBN-13: 978-0064402750
- Mr. Popper's Penguins ISBN-10: 0316058432 OR ISBN-13: 978-0316058438
- Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH ISBN-13: 978-0689710681

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

**Academic Writing I**  
**Teacher: Julia Nalle**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	15/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

Academic I is a one-year course for students in grade 7, 8 or 9. This fun writing course is designed to offer middle school level writing instruction, which will build a foundation for high school courses. Students will work on building effective paragraphs and on using the three-step writing process to develop informative, persuasive, descriptive, narrative, analytical, and expository compositions, and research papers. They will also read and analyze literature (from a Christian worldview). In groups each week, students will learn from each other as they do fun grammar, vocabulary and creative writing activities and games.

The materials fee of \$35.00 covers the student Adventures and Stars book as well as copying fees and other supplies.

Students are responsible to bring to class each week:

- A three-ringed notebook filled with PLENTY of Notebook paper and pencils
- Their Adventures and Stars book (included in the materials fee)

The following books are needed:

- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (unabridged) by Mark Twain
- *Little Men or Little Women* (unabridged)
- Parent-approved biography or autobiography

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

### Academic Writing II

Teacher: Dr. Susan Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>provided</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	4+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-10
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

**Overview:** This course is designed for 8–10th grade students. This class equips students to write at the high school level. It focuses on the essay: the importance of following a writing process, crafting strong thesis statements and topic sentences, and developing ideas in paragraphs. The class covers critical thinking and analysis; audience and purpose; and documentation of sources in MLA style. Students will learn the importance of organizing, drafting, editing, and revising their essays.

**Grammar proficiency:** Prior to enrolling, students should be able to write a complete sentence and know how to avoid fused sentences (run-ons) and sentence fragments. Grammar will be addressed throughout the year as needed.

**Writing:** This course is writing intensive. Students will read and respond to a variety of essays and articles to learn how writers organize their ideas and support their arguments with details, examples, and research. They will learn to transfer those techniques to writing their own essays.

Students will write five essays: the personal narrative, the comparison-contrast essay, and three argumentative essays. They will also learn techniques for writing SAT-style essays and timed essays.

**Needed materials:** A notebook, at least 4 different colored highlighters, computer access with a printer and an email address.

**Provided materials:** A book containing writing instructions, the articles and essays we will read, grammar/mechanics handouts, and essay topics. This book is covered by the materials fees.

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

### **Advanced Creative Writing 9+** **Teacher: Dr. Joseph Sigalas**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$315</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining for the second semester, \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>None*</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1-3hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Advanced Creative Writing Workshop is a one-year, repeatable course designed to inspire and challenge experienced student-writers by giving them more advanced writing assignments in a number of creative genres, such as fiction (stories), poetry, drama, song lyrics, and creative nonfiction. Each semester, students will have the chance to focus on a more extended piece they develop over a number of weeks.

We will develop an understanding of genres by exploring (and playing with) creative conventions and techniques. We will study historical/literary examples, sometimes imitating their effects for practice, and sometimes purposefully violating conventions to see what happens when we play with audience expectations.

We will also learn that good creative writing is about more than writing the first draft. It's also about revising and editing. The class will include many "workshop" (seminar-style) days, during which writers can read (or have someone else read) their ongoing work aloud, and the class will provide constructive feedback. These feedback sessions will be voluntary for the writers.

**Textbook:** a formal text has not been selected, but students may read up to four novels, plays, or screenplays.

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

**College Prep Writing**  
**Teacher: Laura Ford**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$20
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This class is designed to prepare 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students for college in two aspects: writing for entry to college and preparing for their first and second years of college-level compositions. Most students should take CP Writing in 11<sup>th</sup> grade and follow with British Literature in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. While this course does not contain a survey of literature, the assigned readings are primarily a selection of non-fiction American prose. In addition, each student will select and read a work of non-fiction.

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Academic Writing II or permission from the instructor

**Grammar:** Parents should assess their student's proficiency in grammar to ensure that it is at a 10<sup>th</sup> grade level prior to this course. CP Writing will begin with grammar review and include periodic grammar instruction as needed.

**Research & Rhetoric:** Students will conduct in-depth research using scholarly sources. They will take notes in class; become familiar with the rhetorical triangle; use the research process; write multiple essays; and learn the revision process. Additionally, students will participate in peer review.

**Major assignments will include:**

- Narrative essay
- College application essay
- A rhetorical analysis
- Written responses to current events
- A research paper
- A presentation that includes visual aids
- A timed essay based on a writing prompt
- Dialectical journal entries

**Required texts:** Available new/used from Amazon and other online book sites.

- *They Say, I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing* by Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein, ISBN: 9780393617436
- An additional anthology of essays, TBA

**Optional text:**

- *The Little, Brown Handbook*, 12<sup>th</sup> edition or 9<sup>th</sup> edition as used in Academic Writing II

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

### **Creative Writing 4/5**

**Teacher: Julia Nalle**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

This is a fun-filled Creative Writing course for fourth and fifth grade students. This course is designed to help young students learn to write with confidence at their own pace. Your students will enjoy creating their own narratives, descriptions, letters, poems, stories and more. In class, students will learn about the writing process using real-life examples from children's literature, newspapers, articles and more. In groups, they will learn from each other as they apply what they are learning so that they are able to confidently tackle their weekly homework assignment with ease. They will also have weekly "Gotcha" lessons that focus on grammar, sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation. Homework assignments are designed to get students chuckling and excited about writing.

This two-year course covers a different set of topics and assignments every other year. Neither year is a prerequisite for the other. New students can enter in either year, and students who were enrolled last year may return for a second year of all-new material.

The materials fee of \$20.00 covers the student Creative Writing book, the class poetry book and other copying fees and supplies.

Students are responsible to bring to class each week:

- A three-ringed notebook filled with PLENTY of Notebook paper and pencils
- Their Creative Writing book (included in the materials fee)

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

### Creative Writing 6-8

Teacher: Dr. Joseph Sigalas

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
Textbook:	*Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1-3
Min/Max Students:	8/16
Grade Level:	6-8*
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	Yes
age exceptions possible with permission of the instructor	

\*Textbook included in the materials fee.

Creative Writing is a full-year course designed to spark and build students' interest and confidence in writing. The point is to foster creativity through challenging but fun assignments in creative genres that include stories, poetry, drama, screenwriting, song lyrics, and creative non-fiction.

While using creativity to invent stories and blast through obstacles sometimes caused by fear of "doing it wrong," students will also learn how to write more effectively. They'll discover that the effects they enjoy in reading or watching movies—e.g., surprise, tension, or fondness for some characters and dislike of others—don't just "happen." They typically result from choices authors make about the plot, characters, language, etc. We will take time to notice these choices in samples and to think critically about them in our own writing.

We will also learn that good writing, creative or otherwise, is about more than writing the first draft. It's also about using good general writing techniques (e.g., use of concrete details), effective revision, and yes, proofreading. That means it's not just about avoiding mistakes but instead about using techniques intentionally to communicate their stories. Often, we will write freely from prompts and then focus on revising our pieces to make the writing more effective—e.g., to achieve better conciseness, improve character development, improve the detail, or just make it funnier.

In-class lessons will take various forms. In addition to plenty of writing, many class days will include exercises, games, and other activities designed to foster and stretch creativity. The materials fee covers all handouts. These will include exercises as well as some homework readings.

**Please note: Throughout the year, I will occasionally change the schedule or assignments. When that happens, I will notify students by email and adjust the online syllabus.**

Students will need the following:

- Internet access (supervised, please), as I will post assignments to our website and accept assignments electronically.
- Plenty of notebook paper, pens, and/or pencils—brought to class each time we meet.

Some requirements:

- All submitted assignments must be double spaced. Typed assignments are preferred, but longhand (also double-spaced) is fine for in-class work, worksheets, early drafts, and so forth.
- Discourtesy to others is 100% unacceptable. Sharing what we have written with others takes guts, so students are required to be receptive and kind to classmates when they share.

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

### Grammar

Teacher: Venita Richmond

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes*
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

Good grief...it's grammar time! If this is your student's reaction to grammar (or your own!), you are not alone. Knowledge of grammar, however, is an essential component to effective communication, including writing. This course will introduce and review the basic parts of speech, sentence structures, verbals, and modifiers. We will do fun weekly editing activities, exercises from the textbook *Our Mother Tongue*, and sample writing from scripture and classic literature. A variety of classroom activities will be utilized to help students not only grasp the structure of language, but value and even have fun with it!

Note: This course should not be taken in place of a writing course, but it will complement a writing course nicely. Students will have about one hour of homework each week.

\*Required Textbook: *Our Mother Tongue, A Guide to English Grammar*, by Nancy Wilson, any edition.

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

**IEW Fables, Myths and Fairy Tales:  
Foundations of Writing for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Teacher: Jennifer Miller**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$10
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	7/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5*
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

In this course, students will learn to write using the Structure & Style method from the Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW). We will work through IEW Units 1-7 as students learn to take notes, retell stories, summarize references, write from pictures, and compose their own stories. The Structure & Style method gradually gives children practical tools with which to write, including how to use “Dress-ups” and “Decorations” to make their writing more fun and interesting.

In class we will model writing techniques and practice together, learn new vocabulary words, and share our completed papers in an encouraging environment. After I have modeled a technique and we have practiced in class, students will have a writing assignment and checklist to complete at home each week, which they will bring to class the following week.

Parents are encouraged to have a Teacher Edition in order to support your child’s progress at home.

Specific units covered in this class are:

- Unit 1: Note-making and Outlines
- Unit 2: Writing from Notes
- Unit 3: Retelling Narrative Stories
- Unit 4: Summarizing a Reference
- Unit 5: Writing from Pictures
- Unit 6: Summarizing Multiple References
- Unit 7: Inventive Writing

Check out <https://iew.com/shop/products/fables-myths-and-fairy-tales-writing-lessons-teacherstudent-combo> to view sample pages and see the cool stories we will be using to inspire our writing this year!

Other materials needed, not included in fees:

- Fables, Myths, & Fairy Tales Student Book and Teacher Edition by Maria Gerber, 3rd Edition, 2019, published by IEW (\$49 purchased together)
- student binder with paper and dividers for each unit

The materials fee will be used to provide a copy of the Student Resource Guide to each student as well as in-class materials.

\*age exceptions with teacher approval

## Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

**Phonics Boosters K-1**  
**Teacher: Regina Dorgan**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$180</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-1</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Phonics Boosters will be a complete overview of phonics in general. We will begin the year with a quick letter sound/name review, move on to long vowel/short vowel, cover all of our blends, work on number name recognition, and memorize a large list of sight words. We will practice reading words, move on to short sentences, and hopefully some short stories by the end of the year.

## Math

### Algebra I: Made Simple

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	3-4
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8-10
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes*

#### **\*\*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra**

We will spend the year working with variables and adding to our basic math skills. We will work with solving equations and practical word problems. Yes, the equations get harder. We will spend a lot of time factoring and FOILing, along with simplifying polynomial fractions. We will work with exponents and radicals. We will solve systems of equations and quadratic equations. We will work with ratios, proportions, and a little graphing. We will cover the basics in an Algebra 1 curriculum.

We will use a combination of Abeka Algebra 1 textbook (need to purchase) and worksheets.

Students will have daily homework, which is expected to be completed at home. Quizzes and tests will need to be completed at home, as well. All assignments and work will reflect and practice the topics presented on that given week.

## Math

### Algebra II

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	4-5
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	10+
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

#### **\*\*Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This is a high school level Algebra II course. Class time will focus on new concepts (factoring, rational expressions, coordinate geometry, variation, systems of equations, powers, roots, exponents, radicals, imaginary numbers, quadratic equations and more). We will also talk briefly about homework problems. The newest version of the textbook is long, but it has tons of daily review. We will not be going through the entire textbook but will cover over half of it (some topics saved for Precalculus).

Students will be expected to complete problem sets and tests at home, bringing corrected work to class. Take home tests will be given periodically throughout the year. Parents are responsible for ensuring that all assigned work is completed. Teacher will make notes on homework, if needed, and grade tests.

Homework: Will be about 4-5 hours a week. We will cover a lot of material and students will be expected to keep up. Teacher will be available for additional help outside of class and email questions will gladly be taken.

**\*This is a 90-minute class.**

Required:

- Abeka Algebra 2 – textbook 2016 edition (skyscraper under construction on cover)
- Abeka Algebra 2 – solutions manual 2016 edition
- Scientific Calculator or TI graphing calculator– not on phone!
- Also needed: Notebook with lots of paper, graph paper helpful, pencils, colored pens (for graphing and checking/correcting).

## Math

### Harold Jacobs Geometry

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	3-4
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	9-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

This course is high school level and covers geometry and its associated logic from a Christian viewpoint. The textbook is: *Geometry: Seeing, Doing, Understanding*, Third Edition, by Harold Jacobs. **Prerequisite is Algebra I.**

The author clearly loves geometry and passes along his enthusiasm to the reader. The text begins with a presentation of deductive reasoning and how it is essential for the study of Geometry. Jacobs Geometry then progresses through Euclidean geometry starting with points, lines, planes, angles, and polygons. Further material includes area, right triangles, geometric transformations, congruency and similarity, trigonometric functions, and three-dimensional objects. The text finishes with a chapter on non-Euclidean geometry.

Logical skills are developed since proofs of geometric theorems are woven throughout the exercises. Asking “why” is emphasized, and abundant real-world applications are given. Students are expected to be current on homework problems, prepared to discuss the homework, and to have familiarized themselves with the next week’s new concepts.

Completion of this course will greatly aid any student preparing for a standardized test, as geometric concepts factor heavily in PSAT and SAT math sections.

Homework: Accountability is requested through turn in checked and corrected homework. Class time will allow for review of any difficult topics students had in the previous week’s work but will focus on teaching and mastering new concepts. Mrs. King requests that parents carefully proctor closed book quizzes and tests since there is not enough class time to test during the period. Students can anticipate 3-4 hours of homework a week.

Textbook: *Geometry Seeing, Doing, Understanding*, Third Edition, by Harold Jacobs. ISBN 0-7167-4361-2. The 2017 version of the book is also acceptable. If you get the 2017 version, you also need to get the solutions, but you do not need the teacher’s guide.

Required: *Enhanced Teacher's Guide for Geometry: Seeing, Doing, Understanding*, Third Edition for complete set of solutions and answer keys. ISBN 0-7167-5607-2

Other supplies needed: notebook, pens and pencils, calculator with sine, cosine, and tangent functions (this is frequently called a scientific calculator), compass, ruler, and protractor.

*\*with teacher approval*

## Math

### Pre-Algebra Made Easy

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1.5-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-10
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes*

Struggling with grasping math concepts necessary for further math? Need a strong basis to go further in Algebra?

Math is a part of every adult's life. You will use it.

We will learn all the concepts necessary to be successful in future math classes. We will work with positive and negative numbers (+, -, x, ÷) and their absolute value. We will learn about squares, square roots, and exponents. We will learn/review the order of operations. We will work with word expressions with the goal of making deciphering word problems easier. We will learn to solve one-variable equations, starting simple and getting more difficult. We will learn about graphing: plotting points, graphing equations, and finding the slope/y-intercept. We will work with inequalities. We will learn about FOIL and factoring. If time permits, we will also get to ratios and proportions.

We will not use a textbook. We will use a lot of worksheets. The student will have approximately one worksheet to complete a day. In class, I will teach a new concept, and we will work with it in class. I will send home a worksheet to practice that concept for the next three days, and a review sheet for Friday. All worksheets will need to be completed each week. I will also include links to videos and games to reinforce and review topics covered in class, if a student needs additional help.

Textbook: none

Needed: notebook paper, pencils, and a colored pen for checking/correcting.

Requirement: Students are required to do the weekly assignments! Should be about 1.5-3 hours a week.

## Math

### Pre-Calculus with Trigonometry

Teacher: Wendy King

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs a wk:	4-5
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	11-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 and Geometry

Materials fee includes textbook and answer key rental

We will spend the year getting you ready for college math and science classes. First agenda, to learn all the helpful uses of a graphing calculator and how it can speed up and help you in all math and science classes. The graphing calculator will be used in most classes. A calculator app is not acceptable and cannot be used on any standardized tests.

This course is a study of higher mathematics. Pre-calculus can be thought of as a continuation of an algebra journey: early Pre-calc is a review of Algebra 2 concepts, while late Pre-calc is a bridge to Calculus. We will learn how to use a valuable tool in math and life - the graphing calculator.

Parents and students who have struggled with math in the past can benefit from this course, where Mrs. King focuses on real-world applications of math. Students at this level have a strong need to know both *why* they are learning and *what the goal* of learning is. This course speaks to both those questions throughout the course so that math is less of an isolated subject and more of a multi-disciplinary tool to understand the world around us.

Concepts include:

- Number theory, the number line, real numbers, complex numbers
- Study of real numbers including rational and irrational
- Properties of functions including domain, range, odd, even, one-to-one, periodicity, symmetry, asymptotes, intercepts, and zeros.
- Inverse and composite functions
- Families of functions (linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic)
- Graphing, shifting, and stretching functions
- Understanding and interpreting functions using algebra, graphic calculators, or table of values
- Modeling real world situations using functions and solving word problems
- Conic sections including parabolas, circles, ellipses, and hyperbolas
- The Binomial Theorem and Pascal's Triangle
- Trigonometry

Homework: Will be turned in each week. Students can anticipate 4-5 hours of homework per week. Tests are taken at home and must be proctored by a parent, guardian, or responsible adult.

Textbook and solution manual will be provided.

- Provided: Stewart, Redlin and Watson's Pre-Calculus Fifth Edition, Mathematics for Calculus Hardback  
ISBN-10 0534492770 ISBN-13 978-0534492779
- Graphing Calculator TI 83+ or higher is required

## Music

### **ACTS K-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Choir** **Teacher: Kristin Baltes**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$8)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/30</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS Choir K-2 is for students in kindergarten through 2nd. Singers will explore many different genres of choral music including sacred, classical, and contemporary Christian. Our singing will include actions, sign language, and some simple choreography so that students are using their whole bodies as they sing. Rehearsals will start with warm-ups, focusing on good, healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in music reading, listening, blending, simple two-part harmonizing, and getting songs performance ready. Students will perform for the Christmas concert and Spring concert.

**\*This replaces KinderKhorus**

## Music

### **ACTS 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir**

**Teacher: Kristin Baltes**

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$225</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$10)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/30</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3rd-6th</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS 3rd-6th grade choir is for students in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Singers will explore many different genres of choral music including sacred, classical, and contemporary Christian. Our singing will include actions, sign language, and some simple choreography so that students are using their whole bodies as they sing. Rehearsals will start with warm-ups, focusing on good, healthy vocal technique and will engage the students in music reading, listening, blending, simple two-part harmonizing, and getting songs performance ready. Students will perform for the Christmas concert and Spring concert.

\*This replaces Chorus and the Classics

## Music

### Female Vocal Ensemble

Teacher: Kristin Baltes

**\*Audition only\***

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(materials fee \$15 for second sem.)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	None
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	12/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

**This audition choir will be offered to females in grades 9-12 who audition.**

The ensemble will focus on three and four-part harmony, using acapella songs, Christian music, and traditional and classic repertoire. Students must know how to read music and will be expected to hold harmonies in a small choir setting.

This choir will most likely have to meet an additional 4-5 times per semester to meet the demands of the repertoire we will be studying. Those extra rehearsals are to be determined as a class.

## Music

**ACTS Choir 7+**  
**TreblesomeACTS!**  
**Teacher: Kristin Baltes**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	15/30
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This choir is designed to introduce and develop reading choral music, teach good vocal technique, and prepare participants for concerts and a lifelong appreciation for singing. Middle and high school male and female students learn to use their voices as a means of musical expression, using various music genres from classical to pop, Christian to secular, and Broadway to traditional. Students will explore the topics of melody, harmony, blending, dynamics, diction, tuning, listening, musical expression, tone quality, vowel placement, and correct posture and breathing.

Students will discover the world of music; how it conveys meaning and sensation of many kinds, how it is both a cultural definer and a bridge between cultures, how scripture talks about music and singing, and why our innate human need is to create order and find delight with sound, music, and singing. Students gain confidence in singing for audiences as well as for themselves.

### Course Objectives

- Teaching will include correct singing posture, breathing, and production of a balanced and free vocal tone.
- Emphasis will be on listening and matching pitch, holding unison, melodic, and harmonic parts in two and three parts, performing a range of dynamic contrasts and tempo changes, and matching vowel colors within the choir.
- Students will identify and perform standard notation terms and symbols for pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, articulation, and expression.

Students will learn to respond to basic conducting gestures, incorporate expression in their singing, and exhibit productive rehearsal skills while staying focused, being prepared, participating fully, respecting others, and performing for audiences.

## Physical Education

### Boys' Team Sports Teacher: Jerry McGill

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$135</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$15
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$5
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$2.50)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	no
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	14/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This class is designed for older students who want to enjoy team sports at the rec sports level.

Games we play include:

- flag football
- kickball
- volleyball
- waffle ball
- soccer
- basketball
- dodge ball, and
- ultimate Frisbee.

The goal is to build confidence in athletics in an atmosphere of fellowship and fun.

The materials fee covers sporting equipment not offered at the church.

## Physical Education

### Girls' PE 6-10

Teacher: Laura Ford

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$135</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-10</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

In this class, girls will have the opportunity to develop their personal fitness by participating in a variety of team sports, cooperative games, and individual fitness training. The goal is to foster a love for fitness, encourage healthy choices, and develop the skills necessary for lifetime sports. Improvement and effort will take precedence over mastery. Students may repeat this course.

Examples of activities include:

- Circuit training
- Kickball
- Bocce
- Pickleball
- Team handball
- Futsal
- Cooperative games

The materials fee covers the purchase of sporting equipment not available at the church.

## Physical Education

### Physical Education K-3

Teacher: Sherri Burkholder

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$135</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-3</i>
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Students learn the basics of hand-eye and hand-foot coordination, improve motor skills, increase flexibility, and learn team cooperation. To achieve these goals, students will engage in relays and a variety of energetic games such as Battleship and Line Tag. The overall goal is to provide a fun environment and teach students to enjoy physical education. This class is suited for all levels of athletic ability.

## Physical Education

### Physical Education 4-7 Teacher: Jerry McGill

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$135</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$15
Materials Fee:	\$5
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$2.50)</i>	
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs a wk:	no
Min/Max Students:	14/20
Grade Level:	4-7
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

Students will participate in a variety of team sports to improve large motor skills, coordination, flexibility, team cooperation, and good sportsmanship. Students will have the opportunity to learn the basic rules, fundamentals, and skills of:

- dodge ball (all 8 variations!)
- kickball
- soccer
- touch football
- capture the flag
- waffle ball, and
- other fun team activities.

The goal is to help build confidence in athletics as students gain skills and promote overall fitness in an atmosphere of fun!

The materials fee covers sporting equipment not offered at the church.

## Preschool

**Playful Learning for Tots**

**Periods 1-3 Teacher: Susan Proffitt**

**Periods 4-6 Teacher: Karen Miller**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$180</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$20
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	no
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	3/10
<i>Age Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

***\*\*Preschool students must be potty trained\*\****

Children learn about nature, seasons, holidays, animals, and science through story time, arts and crafts, dramatic play, activities, songs, and games. Letter and number recognition may be introduced. Large motor activities include outdoor gym equipment and outdoor games. The children have the opportunity to learn group skills such as sharing, cooperation, listening, and following directions as well as making new friends at ACTS. Natural creativity and love of learning are encouraged. This early childhood class is a great introduction to the ACTS homeschool co-op.

Second period children bring lunch.

Enrollment for the preschool classes will be handled in this order:

- Preschoolers of ACTS teachers
- Preschool-aged siblings of ACTS students
- 4-year-old children whose parents intend to homeschool them as Kindergarteners

## Science

### **Anatomy and Physiology** **Teacher: Mandy Newberry**

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	optional
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	3-5
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	11-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

#### **\*Prerequisites:** Biology

This is a high school Anatomy and Physiology course, with lab, taught from a Christian perspective. Students will work through the required text at home, including reading material, “On Your Own Questions,” Study Guides, and Case Studies. Class time will include discussion of material and lab with an emphasis on the seamless integration of body systems and application to everyday life. Students will be guided in keeping a lab notebook with data, calculations, and reports.

#### **Topics include:**

- Homeostasis & Cell Review
- Histology
- Integumentary system
- Skeletal System Anatomy, Histology & Movement
- Muscular System Histology & Physiology
- Skeletal Muscle System
- Nervous System (at the Cellular Level)
- Central Nervous System
- Peripheral Nervous System
- Endocrine System
- Cardiovascular System
- Lymphatic System
- Digestive System
- Respiratory System
- Urinary System
- Reproductive System

**Homework:** Homework is broken down into a daily schedule to help students manage the workload. Approximately 1-2 hours per day should be enough to keep up with the material. Tests and quizzes are to be taken at home (proctored by a parent) and turned in for grading.

**Required Texts:** (1.) *Exploring Creation with Advanced Biology, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.*, (2.) *Exploring Creation with Advanced Biology, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Student Notebook*, and (3.) *Kaplan Anatomy Coloring Book, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition*

Materials Fee covers the cost of anatomical models, microscopes, histological slides, and weekly experiment materials.

## Science

### **Discovering Design with Chemistry**

**Teacher: Sharon Shelton**

(75-minute class)

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2½-3
Min/Max Students:	5/18
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

This is a high school level chemistry course with laboratory taught from a Christian viewpoint. Students will work at home through the sixteen chapters of *Discovering Design with Chemistry* by Dr. Jay Wile. Class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts. Topics of study will include: classification of matter, atomic structure, spectroscopy, chemical bonding, molecular geometry, physical change, chemical change, stoichiometry, solutions, ideal gases, acid/base chemistry, reduction/oxidation reactions, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and chemical equilibria. Students will perform various chemical experiments relating to the topics of study utilizing the scientific method while observing safe laboratory technique. Lab worksheets or lab reports will accompany each experiment.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read the chapters, answer “Comprehension Check” questions and chapter reviews at home, as well as prepare lab reports or complete lab worksheets.

**Grading:** Chapter tests will be administered at home by parent but turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports and lab worksheets.

**Books to purchase:**

- *Discovering Design in Chemistry* by Dr. Jay Wile
- *Discovering Design in Chemistry Answer Key and Tests Book*

**Other supplies needed:**

- Calculator (Must have EE or exp key for entering numbers in scientific notation)
- 3 ring binder
- Bound lab notebook
- Pencils, blue or black ink pen
- Ruler

*\*with teacher approval*

## Science

### Exploring Creation with Biology

**Teacher: Pamela Sealander**

(75-minute class)

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	2½ -3
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	9-11
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

This is a high school level biology course with laboratory taught from a Christian perspective. It is recommended to take this course the same year the student is taking Algebra I; a pre-requisite is Pre-Algebra. Students will read and study the sixteen learning modules at home, and class time will be utilized for labs, group discussion, and clarification of concepts. Topics of study include: life processes, biological classification, the five living kingdoms (Monera, Protista, Fungi, Plantae, Animalia), ecosystems and cycles, origins of life (creation vs. evolution), biochemistry, cell structure/reproduction, and genetics. Students will frequently utilize a microscope, and they will dissect an owl pellet, earthworm, crayfish, grasshopper, perch, and frog during the year.

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read modules, answer “On Your Own Questions”, complete the study guide, compose lab reports, and complete tests at home. Ms. Sealander will grade module tests, lab reports, and will hold students responsible for completing assignments as instructed. There will be occasional special projects throughout the year.

Materials fee covers the microscope rent for the year, slides, dissection kits, and general supplies for weekly labs.

Required Textbooks:

1. Apologia Exploring Creation with Biology, 3rd Edition Textbook  
ISBN: 978-1-946506-45-0
2. Apologia Exploring Creation with Biology, 3rd Edition Solutions and Tests Manual  
ISBN: 978-1-946506-46-7

Other Supplies: Three-ring binder with 16 dividers, loose-leaf paper, pencils, colored pencils, and homework folder/pocket portfolio

*\*with teacher approval*

## Science

### Exploring Creation with Physical Science Teacher: Sharon Shelton

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$20)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	2½-3
Min/Max Students:	6/18
Grade Level:	8
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

This is a middle school level physical science class taught from a Christian viewpoint. The course covers such topics as the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, weather, structure of the earth, environmentalism, physics of motion, Newton's Laws, gravity, and astrophysics. Students will read and study the sixteen learning modules at home. Class time will be utilized primarily for labs and students will learn how to prepare a basic lab report. We will also have group discussions for the clarification of concepts that students may be having trouble with or that they would like to explore further. Students are required to read the assigned module and answer the "On Your Own" questions before attending lab.

(Recommended for Grade 8 – Students should either be in pre-algebra while taking this course or have finished it before this course.)

**Homework:** The instructor will monitor/assess students' timely completion of quality work. Students will read modules, answer "On Your Own" questions, finish study guides, and complete the module tests at home.

**Grading:** Tests will be administered by parents at home and then turned into Mrs. Shelton for grading. Mrs. Shelton will also grade lab reports.

#### **Books to Purchase:**

- *Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed.*
- *Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. Solutions Manual*
- Optional: Exploring Creation With Physical Science, Companion CD-ROM

#### **Other supplies needed:**

- 3-ring binder
- lab notebook (bound)
- pencils
- ruler
- calculator

*\*with teacher approval*

## Science

### Exploring Creation with Physics

Teacher: Donna Richardson

(75-minute class)

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$360</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$35
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	4-5
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

This is a high school level physics course with laboratory taught from a Christian viewpoint. Students will work through Apologia Exploring Creation with Physics by Jay Wile. Class time will cover physics concepts from the text, laboratories, group discussion, and the importance of physics in the world around us. Special emphasis will be placed on learning how to write a college-level lab report.

Concepts include:

- One- and two-dimensional motion using components
- Vectors and scalars
- Dimensional analysis as an aid to problem solving
- Displacement, velocity, speed, average and instantaneous acceleration
- Understanding the acceleration of gravity
- Mass, inertia, and force
- Newton's Laws
- Kinetic and potential energy, energy transfer, and thermodynamic understanding of energy and the universe
- Work and torque
- Hooke's Law for springs
- Periodic motion including circular motion, pendulums, mass springs
- Linear and angular momentum
- Light and sound waves and their properties
- Geometric Optics, reflection, and refraction
- Static electricity, series, and parallel circuits
- Electrostatic forces, electric fields, and electric potential
- Magnetism and the right-hand rule

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I should have been completed; Algebra II can be taken concurrently with this class. A familiarity with trigonometric functions is helpful, but instruction will be given in class that will teach the necessary skills.

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read modules, answer "On Your Own" and "Practice Problem" questions, and complete tests and quizzes at home. Mrs. Richardson requests that parents carefully proctor closed book quizzes and tests, since there is not enough class time to test during the period. Students can anticipate 4-5 hours of homework per week.

*The materials fee covers materials needed for the labs and other class supplies.*

Textbook: *Exploring Creation with Physics, 2nd edition* by Dr. Jay L. Wile. ISBN 1-932012-42-7  
Supplementary: Solutions and Tests for Exploring Creation with Physics 2nd Edition. ISBN 1-932012-43-5

Other supplies needed: 3 ring binder, pencils, calculator that can perform sine, cosine, and tangent functions, ruler.

*\*with teacher approval*

## Science

### Forensic Science

Teacher: Pamella Sealander

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$315</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, material fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

**Recommended Pre-requisite:** Biology

**Course Description:** This class introduces students to the fascinating world of forensic science, the science used to help solve crimes, and shows them how to find clues, analyze evidence, and crack the case. Students will develop the abilities to think critically, creatively, and analytically through interesting, real world case studies. This curriculum includes hands-on activities dealing with life, earth, and physical science topics. Projects include handwriting analysis, identifying fingerprints, analyzing blood spatter, and DNA analysis.

**Homework:** 1-2 hours/week. Students will be expected to read assigned reading and complete quizzes and tests at home. Ms. Sealander will grade activity homework and will hold students responsible for completing assignments as instructed.

Materials fee covers general supplies for weekly activities.

**Text:** Forensic Science: Fundamentals and Investigations (thru enrollment in Cengage.com). Students will be given information to join the class through Cengage.com and the cost is \$50 for the MindTap digital platform which includes the digital textbook.

**Supplies:** Three-ring binder with loose-leaf paper, pencils, colored pencils, and homework folder/pocket portfolio

**Credits Earned:** 1 science credit

*\*with teacher approval*

## Science

### Life Science

Teacher: Kathy Pierson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$270</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, material fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/ Hrs a wk:	2 1/2-3
Min/Max Students:	7/16
Grade Level:	7
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes*

Students will learn about various life science concepts from the perspective of a Christian Worldview. The Bob Jones University Press life science textbook is written on a 7th grade level but is also appropriate for a 6th grader who is looking for a more in-depth study of science using a daily homework schedule. Students in 8th grade who have an interest in life science, or who are not ready for a high school level class, may take this class to help them prepare for higher level classes. This course is an excellent course to take to prepare for high school biology.

Life science is making observations and decisions about living things. Students will develop the skills necessary to make scientific observations of living things on their own. The course covers such topics as classifying living things, genetics and genetic mutations, plants, osmosis, diffusion, pH of life substances, protein in life substances, introduction to the microscope, human body studies including heart dissection, procedural information concerning hospital tests that are done on the heart while seeing cardiac catheterization equipment and films, animal behavior, fish respiration studies, birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, ecosystems, biotic and abiotic factors, variety of animal dissections including a shark and invertebrates.

Students are required to read the material at home and complete homework questions, and then come to class ready to bring the material alive through the many hands on experiments and activities. Weekly homework is required but there are no tests or quizzes given in this course. If a parent would like to test their child, they can order tests from Bob Jones University Press for you to use as an assessment that you would do at home. Students will give one report each semester as well as learning the correct procedure for writing up lab reports.

#### **Books to borrow from the teacher:**

- BJU Life Science Grade 7 Student Text, Book A and Book B, 3rd edition, ISBN 978-1-59166-474-1
  - Please note: the teacher has book sets for students to borrow. These will be handed out at orientation in August. If you prefer purchasing your own copy, please let the teacher know.

Other supplies needed:

- 3-ring binder with paper
- pencils

## Science

### Science Exploration K-2 (Year C)

Teacher: Pamella Sealander

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes*
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1/2 hr.
Min/Max Students:	6/15
Grade Level:	K-2**
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

This action-packed class will feature 'hands on' learning experiences for K-2 students. Through demonstrations, model making, and experimentation, students will grasp scientific principles as the teacher highlights important concepts. Scientific skills of observing, sequencing, classifying, measuring, questioning, predicting, and experimenting will be emphasized. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video that goes with the topic may be shown. An occasional report will be assigned (approximately two to three per year).

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no pre-requisites for enrolling in either Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (K-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians

Year B – Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants

Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

Homework: Students will need to read (or have a parent read to them) pertinent library books prior to class time. This preparation will help to maximize the learning experience. When homework pages are given, these should be completed as well.

Guest Speakers will occasionally be invited to teach in their area of expertise to enhance learning.

Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. The \$50 fee covers both semesters. Students enrolling in January pay a \$30 materials fee.

Occasionally, to avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home.

Additional items to purchase: A 3-ring binder with dividers for each topic (order as listed above) to be brought each week

*\*Students may use books from the library and an optional text*

*\*\*No minimum age exceptions permitted*

## Science

### Science Exploration 3-4 (Year C) Teacher: Kathy Pierson

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is 30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	1
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This science class will be comprised mostly of ‘hands on’ experiments that will go along with the reading material. Some class time will be review of what was read prior to class in order to tie the reading material together with the hands-on experiments. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video that goes with the topic may be shown. Occasionally, guest teachers will be invited to teach in their area of expertise to enhance learning. An occasional report will be assigned (approximately two to three per year) With an occasional exception, topics will be covered in 4 or 5-week units.

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no pre-requisites for enrolling in either Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (k, 1-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B - Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

**Textbooks:** ABeka Science Grade 4, 4th edition, 2008 copyright & ABeka Science Grade 5, 4th edition, 2009 copyright. Please note that it is a requirement for families to use the current edition of these textbooks.

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read (or to have a parent read to them) the assigned reading prior to class each week. When homework pages are given, these should be brought to class to receive credit for completion. This preparation will assist them in getting the most out of their science classes. The Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. \$30 is due at registration and covers fall semester plus some year-long materials. \$20 additional is due in January and covers spring semester. Students enrolling in January pay a \$30 materials fee. To avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home.

Students should bring to class each week a 3-ring binder with 6 dividers labeled with this year’s topics.

**Websites:** It is not required for students to have internet access to be in this science course. Websites are sometimes suggested as an optional activity to enhance learning on a variety of topics, but they are not required. Students without internet access may choose reading material from the library as an extra, optional activity

**Handouts:** Students will receive a hard copy of their handouts in class. If they become lost, parents can re-print them from the handouts that are sent to you as an attachment from the teacher.

## Science

### Science Exploration 5-6 (Year C)

Teacher: Kim Eagle

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$225</b>
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs a wk:	1½
Min/Max Students:	8/14
Grade Level:	5-6
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

This science class will be comprised mostly of ‘hands on’ experiments and activities keyed to the reading material. Once a semester, an exceptional educational video may be shown and discussed. Specially qualified guest speakers may also be invited to share their area of expertise to enhance our learning. Several reports or projects may be assigned, and oral presentations will be expected. Class activities will be summarized and enriched through “foldable” handouts and models which will be assembled into optional Lap Books. **A computer with internet access is strongly recommended for this course.**

Science Explore topics follow a three-year sequence, listed below, to assure that students have a well-rounded science background from grades K-6. There are no pre-requisites for enrolling in Year A, B, or C. Reading material and experiments vary in each level of study (k, 1-2, 3-4, & 5-6). When a student repeats a year of topics at the next level up, they will build on their knowledge base, study each topic in more depth and be further challenged.

- Year A – Insects, Astronomy, Geology, Matter/Kitchen Chemistry, Forensics, Mammals, Reptiles, Amphibians
- Year B - Motion/Flight, Ecology, Oceanography, Magnetism/Electricity, Nutrition/Outdoor Survival/First Aid, Plants
- Year C – Trees, Human Body, Weather, Simple Machines, Sound/Light, Birds

**Homework:** Students will be expected to read the designated material from the text(s) prior to each class, and complete written exercises as assigned in order to get the most out of their science classes. In addition, time spent at home cutting, folding, and coloring will be necessary to complete the Lap Book foldables. Homework will be checked in class for completion but not for accuracy as parents should correct all work prior to class (answer keys provided.) Tests are optional but may be used by parents as additional reviews or evaluations.

#### **Textbooks:**

- ABeka 5<sup>th</sup> grade science: Investigating God’s World (1990 or newer editions)
- ABeka 6<sup>th</sup> grade science: Observing God’s World (1991 or newer editions)
- Some units require reading from internet sources or reading from non-textbook sources, which are provided by the instructor.

To avoid unnecessary spending, students may be asked to bring items from home.

Materials fee covers most of the items needed for the weekly labs and copying costs. Students enrolling in January pay a \$30 materials fee.

Students should bring a notebook with a 3-ring binder with them to class each week along with textbook, pencil, and colored pencils. Binder should include a divider labeled for each topic.

## Study Hall & Teen Lounge

### Study Hall

Teacher: Mary Seymour

<b>Yearly Course Fee:</b>	<b>\$45</b>
Monthly Installment:	*n/a
Materials Fee:	n/a
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs a wk:	n/a
Min/Max Students:	5/18
Grade Level:	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>
Accepts 2 <sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:	yes

\*Tuition will be paid in one payment for the fall and spring semester. Fall semester payment will be \$20 and spring semester payment will be \$25. Tuition for Study Hall may NOT be paid in monthly installments.

Attendance in the Study Hall is scheduled through HORAS when other class scheduling takes place. This enables ACTS, Study Hall Supervisors and service parents to ensure the safety of students in the lounge.

Study Hall attendance should be scheduled by semester – for example, a student who will be in Study Hall during third period for the entire year should schedule both the fall and spring semesters of Study Hall for third period.

Students who have not scheduled to be in the Study Hall in the online HORAS scheduling system will not be permitted to be in Study Hall. Those students enrolled in Study Hall should arrive at the start of the period in which they are enrolled (not early or late) and remain in Study Hall for the entire period – not leaving early. (Study Hall is only for students who are enrolled in other ACTS classes.)

Enrollment in Study Hall is limited to two (combined) periods. Officer approval is needed for enrollment in additional periods.

Fees for Study Hall are to fund Study Hall supervisory positions and are non-refundable.

Students utilizing Study Hall must understand that Study Hall is meant for quiet study. Therefore, talking/visiting with friends is not permitted in Study Hall.

Laptops are allowed.

## Study Hall & Teen Lounge

### Teen Lounge

Teacher: Kim Eagle

<b><i>Yearly Course Fee:</i></b>	<b><i>\$90</i></b>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$10
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$5
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs a wk:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/25
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2<sup>nd</sup> sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Students in high school thrive on healthy relationships with peers. Socialization in the right context and with the right supervision can greatly benefit the teen, enabling him/her to succeed in interactions with others. This benefit, and comfort in interacting, will stay with the student into his/her adult years. Teens enjoy hanging out and being with their peers. Teen Lounge will foster wholesome interactions through discussions, games, music, and just being together.

Snacks will be provided each week. Teacher will also supply fun games, discussion topics, and opportunities for interaction. Students are encouraged to bring in musical instruments, favorite books and games to share.

Teen Lounge attendance should be scheduled by semester – for example, a student who will be in Teen Lounge during fifth period for the entire year should schedule both the fall and spring semesters of Teen Lounge for fifth period.

## Meet the Teachers

### **Glenda Atkins**

Glenda Atkins and her husband Bart have been homeschooling their kids, Lauren and Jason, since 2012 and joined the ACTS homeschool community shortly after that. Glenda is a hometown girl. She attended Albemarle County Schools and graduated with an Associates degree from PVCC. She grew up with parents who were involved with a local ministry to the Deaf and naturally learned how to communicate with members of the Deaf community. As an adult, she received formal instruction from those more experienced in ASL. This eventually led to a 14-year career as an educational interpreter for the Deaf, where she interpreted on all levels from preschool to college, as well as local community adult education classes. Glenda has specialized in interpreting for Christian organizations including conferences, concerts, and church services. She is looking forward to helping students at ACTS begin to learn how to communicate with members of the Deaf community.

### **Kristin Baltes**

Kristin Baltes, pianist, flutist, teacher, accompanist, choir director, has been teaching private piano, flute, voice lessons in her home for the past 25 years. Recently a choir director and chapel worship leader at The Covenant School, she also works as the music director for Live Arts, Four Country Players, UVA, Tandem, The Wayne Theater, and DMR. A graduate of Wheaton Conservatory of Music, a former missionary at Black Forest Academy in Kandern, Germany, a mother of two, an avid gardener and wannabe chef, Kristin has been directing music and shows for her whole life and is excited to join the ACTS faculty and coaching young performers in the art of singing music together!

### **Linda Barnes**

Mrs. Barnes, and her husband Ken, have graduated all three of their home-schooled children. Linda has a B.S. in Biology and a B.S. in Medical Technology from New Mexico State University. She was the Assistant Director for Blount County Home Educators Association in Tennessee for several years. Linda has taught in a home-school co-op setting for many years including Algebra 1/2, Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Elementary Science, Brain Teasers and Brain Challenge, Study Skills, Literature, Scholastic Aptitude Test, and Preschool. She has volunteered with Girl Scouts, 4H, and has taught Sunday school. She and her husband are members of Providence Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville.

### **David Blaha**

Civil War earthworks and redoubts were my playgrounds growing up near Petersburg, VA, and as a kid, this environment fed a growing interest in history and geography. After an enlistment in the U.S. Coast Guard and graduation from Florida State University, I went on to teach a variety of social science courses and coach sports for twenty years at both Floyd County High School and Fluvanna County High School, developing two AP courses along the way. In 2016, the Lord moved me out of the classroom and into ministry as the youth pastor at Calvary Chapel, Fluvanna, where I currently still joyfully serve. This life would have little meaning without sharing it with Amy, my wife of 25 years, and our two teenage sons, Brett and Brady.

### **Sherri Burkholder**

Mrs. Burkholder and her husband, Stacey have three children (one which has graduated high school). She homeschooled for over 10 years. Before beginning her homeschool career she worked at Afton Christian School for 4 years where she was responsible for grades 4-8th in various subjects. Her family currently lives in Waynesboro, VA. They are very active in their church where her husband is the associate pastor. She has taught PE K-3 for 8 years and enjoys making physical education fun.

## Meet the Teachers

### **Regina Dorgan**

I taught 1st grade for two years on the West Coast before having children. Our kids have been homeschooled their entire lives. We moved to the Charlottesville area from Alaska in 2016. Our oldest, Joe, attends PVCC with plans to transfer to UVA. Katie (11th grade next year) and Karl (soon to be a 9th grader) attend ACTS. Along with my husband Matt, our family attends church at FBC.

### **Kim Eagle**

Kim is a wife to Todd and a mother to five awesome kids (John, Grant, Katie, Eric, and Ellie). She has a Bachelors of Science from VCU; a Masters of Science from Catholic University; and a Post-Masters from Emory University. She is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and worked for sixteen years in several pediatric hospitals and clinics. Her proudest and most accomplished job has been homeschooling her five children since 1999. Four of her children are in universities in Texas and California, and her youngest is a student at ACTS. She loves science and studying God's creation with others.

### **Laura Ford**

Married to Ryan and mom to three daughters, Laura and her family moved to Crozet in 2015 after military tours in Florida, Texas, North Carolina, and Maryland. Laura earned a B.A. in English at Mary Washington College (now University of Mary Washington) and taught high school English for five years at public schools in northern Virginia and eastern North Carolina. She attends Hope Presbyterian Church in Crozet, and you may have seen her coaching youth soccer for SOCA. She finds sanity by running and digging in the yard.

### **Whitney Gatesman**

Mrs. Gatesman has a Bachelor's degree in music, with emphasis on vocal performance and piano, a minor in theatre, and a Master's degree in Education. She taught second grade for four years and has been teaching with ACTS since 2004. She studied musical theater at Shenandoah Conservatory and has been active in community theatre for over 25 years, as an actor, choreographer and music director. Mrs. Gatesman also teaches private voice and piano lessons. She loves to teach and feels God has truly blessed her with this opportunity to introduce your children to the wonderful world of theatre.

### **Dan Gritsko**

Mr. Gritsko has been a licensed Washington, D.C. tour guide since 1992. His focus is working with Jr. and Sr. High high school groups, leading and planning Christian history tours of Washington, D.C. He has a passion for helping young people to understand history and think through and confidently address the hot issues of the day from a Christian Worldview. He is also a member of ToastMasters International, an organization that provides opportunities for those involved to become better communicators. He has taught at ACTS since 2005. He has a B.A. from WVU in Political Science and International Studies as well as an M.A. in Public Administration. He currently works for Worldstrides here in Charlottesville. He and his wife, Sunny, have been home schooling since 1994.

### **Sunny Gritsko**

Mrs. Gritsko believes in home schooling because it has enabled parents to disciple their children for Christ. Some of her best and most enjoyable homeschooling experiences have been co-opping with other families. She has a bachelor's degree from WVU in graphic design and has experience in commercial art as well as teaching art to other home school families since 1997. She and her husband Dan have 6 children: Daniel, Hannah, Caleb, Esther, Rachel, and John. They have been homeschooling since 1994.

## Meet the Teachers

### **Bethany Hamner**

Bethany and her family have been part of ACTS since 2013. She has home-schooled her two children, MariKaye (14) and Will (11) for 7 years. During her time at ACTS, she has loved serving as an assistant in many classrooms. She attended Piedmont Virginia Community College, where she took accounting and business courses. In addition to home-schooling, she works part-time at the public library in Fluvanna. She loves teaching children and is looking forward to teaching at ACTS this year.

### **Carol Henderson**

Carol has many fond memories of homeschooling all 5 of her children, all of whom are now college-age and beyond. She still loves to teach and is thankful for the opportunity to continue sharing her love of learning with the children at ACTS. During her homeschooling years, she began a list of all the great historically based storybooks she found for her own kids, and over the years the list was published at [www.abookintime.com](http://www.abookintime.com). She has a B.S. from Liberty University and is currently active in ministry at New Hope Church, where her husband is Senior Pastor.

### **Mike Henderson**

Mike began his interest in finance and economics when his dad taught him to file his own taxes at age 16. He took Economics, Accounting, and Taxation in college, and over the years has taken various taxation and finance classes through H&R Block, as well as other online sources. As a Dave Ramsey Certified Financial Coach, he provides financial guidance for struggling families. His degrees include a B.A. in Bible, an M.A. in Bible, and a Master of Divinity degree, and he is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Ministry degree at Liberty University. After pastoring for 35 years, Mike now teaches theology at Park Valley College in Northern Virginia.

### **Lacey Holmes**

Our family moved to Charlottesville from Northern VA six years ago and love this area. My husband and I have three children - a second grader, kindergartner and a one-year-old. We started homeschooling three years ago with our first and have loved the many wonderful homeschool opportunities in this area, especially ACTS. On the weekends, I work as a labor and delivery nurse at Martha Jefferson Hospital. Over the past few years, I have loved to see how creative my children can be with their Lego time. I frequently incorporate Legos into my son's schooling. Legos seem to make everything better. I am excited to have the opportunity for the children to have creative building time with their ACTS friends!

### **Debbie Howard**

Debbie is passionate about life-long learning, homeschooling, and teaching. She treasures the homeschooling adventure shared with her three children since 2000. Her youngest will graduate this year, but bookshelves and closets overflow with books and extra curricula that would be “fun to study” someday...

## **Meet the Teachers**

### **Marvilyn Kennedy**

Marvilyn graduated from WVU with a B.A. in Biology and a B.S. in Physical Therapy. She has been blessed to work with children for over thirty years. In addition to teaching at ACTS since its inception, she leads art classes in community art centers, private schools, churches, and camps. A former homeschooling mom, she is currently the enrichment teacher at First Baptist Preschool. Marvilyn and her husband, David, have three adult children: Alexis, Spenser, and Savannah.

### **Cara Kidd**

Cara, born and raised in Charlottesville, graduated from Virginia Tech with a BS in Human Development. She then received her teaching license from Mary Baldwin College and taught in Orange County, Virginia. During that time, she also received her Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Averett University. Cara has taught 5th grade and was an instructional coach for Orange County and a math specialist for Charlottesville City Schools. Cara is a wife to Chris and mom to Zachary and Maddie. She loves teaching and reading; she is very excited to share her love of learning and all things STEAM related with the families at ACTS.

### **Wendy King**

Mrs. King is a married, homeschooling mom. She and her husband, Jack, knew from the beginning they wanted to homeschool their daughters (Gretl, Grace, Hope, and Faith). Mrs. King has a BS in Mathematics and German from Mary Washington College (now the University of Mary Washington). She has taught high school German and high school mathematics in the public school. She loves math and she has always loved helping people understand math. She has studied German, attended school in Germany, and lived in Germany. She enjoys reading and speaking German. She looks forward with great expectation to teaching German, Algebra Made Simple, Algebra 2, Geometry and Pre-Calculus, and she welcomes the opportunity to help students love math.

### **Thomas Marsh**

Thomas Marsh is a classical figurative sculptor who has created many public monuments and has works in public and private collections throughout the United States. Noted works include the statue in the Santa Cruz, CA monument to surfing, and the Victims of Communism Memorial (2007) in Washington, DC. Marsh received a BFA in painting from the Layton School of Art, Milwaukee, WI, in 1974, an MFA in sculpture from California State University, Long Beach in 1977, and has studied extensively in Italy. Together with his wife and children, Thomas Marsh resides in Orange, Virginia.

### **Jerry McGill**

Jerry graduated from JMU with a B.S. in Hospitality Management and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army. During his 23 years on active duty (both enlisted and officer), Jerry attended various physical fitness leadership courses and knows that an active lifestyle is important for overall well-being. Jerry and his wife Lois homeschooled their 4 children, all who attended ACTS over the years.

## Meet the Teachers

### **Jennifer Miller**

Jennifer Miller has been surprised by homeschooling in so many ways, first that her family even began homeschooling eight years ago, and second that through their imperfect homeschooling journey the Lord has provided so much joy and connection. Jennifer graduated from The College of William & Mary with majors in English Literature and Elementary Education and earned an M.Ed. in Reading Education from the University of Virginia. She taught for over a decade in local public schools as a kindergarten teacher, first grade teacher, and reading specialist. She and her husband Peter, a high school teacher, were married in 1998 and live in Stanardsville, their home base for discipling their four children: Heath, Aidan, Silas, and Neva. She loves worshiping the Lord as part of the body of Christ at Legacy Church, and her favorite thing to lighten a difficult homeschool day is to read aloud to her kids. When she is not reading or cooking, she can be found in the garden, coaxing the tomatoes, and speaking softly to the lettuce.

### **Karen Miller**

Karen Miller is a wife to Brian and a mother to four active and social kiddos (Sierra, Chyler, Ariella, and Mason). They have been attending ACTS since 2014. Karen has a bachelor's degree from Regent University and holds a Virginia State Teaching Certificate (pre-K through 6th grade). Karen is also an Online ESL teacher and teaches English to Chinese students via the VIPKid platform. When not homeschooling her 4 kiddos or teaching online, Karen also serves on the Children's Ministry Leadership Team at her church, is an American Heritage Girl Unit Leader, a Cubbie Leader for AWANA at FBC, a VBS volunteer, and feels passionate about serving alongside her children and husband whenever the Lord calls her. Karen loves teaching character curriculum to preschoolers and believes that Godly character traits help children to grow in their personal relationship with God, with others, and with their academics. Karen is excited for another year teaching ACTS preschoolers.

### **Pastor Tony Monaghan**

Tony Monaghan is pastor of Providence Orthodox Presbyterian Church here in Charlottesville. He has been a pastor for 17 years. He has an AA in Computer Information Systems and a Masters in Divinity from Westminster Theological Seminary in California. Before becoming a pastor, he was a software engineer, writing embedded systems in San Diego, CA. He has played chess since he was a young child and loves the game. Pastor Monaghan has been teaching an ACTS chess class since 2004.

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:1-2 NKJ)*

### **Julia Nalle**

Julia is married to Rob Nalle and is the mother of four sons and one daughter. She graduated with Honors from the Evangelical School of Theology with a M.A. in Religion in 1992. She received a B.S. in Early Childhood Education from Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia and is also a Licensed Practical Nurse. She and her husband own and write all the material for BiblioPlan – a classical history and literature curriculum for homeschooling families. She is passionate about the Lord, studying history in order and special needs adoption!

## Meet the Teachers

### **Mandy Newberry**

Mrs. Newberry graduated from the University of Virginia with a Master's Degree in Exercise Physiology and spent several years working as the Exercise Coordinator at UVA's Kidney Center. She is passionate about promoting optimal health *now* for our *future* quality of life by utilizing the tools and resources God has given to us. Mrs. Newberry has enjoyed coaching middle and high school volleyball in Charlottesville since the early 2000's and is a firm believer in the positive effects of practicing Growth Mindset: on the court, in the classroom and in life. She and her husband have four sons and have been homeschooling since 2015.

### **Miriam Nissley**

Mrs. Nissley and her husband, Tim, have five children (Matt, Ben, David, Maria, & Anna) and home-schooled from 1990-2014. She has taught at ACTS since 2003, and has experience teaching in children's church, Sunday School, in-home daycare & pre-school settings. In 2005, ACTS asked her to develop a three-year rotation of Spanish vocabulary that implemented games & activities to teach Spanish vocabulary in a fun way. This allows children to jump in at any time during the cycle. In 2015, Mrs. Nissley introduced the "American Girls Rock!" course which allows girls to explore the time periods of the AG historical dolls and possibly the theme of AG contemporary dolls in the 4<sup>th</sup> year cycle. She has a passion for teaching, supporting home-school families and praying for her students.

### **Maria Nootbaar**

The daughter of Cuban immigrants, Maria's first language was Spanish. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages and a Master of Arts in Teaching Spanish from the University of Virginia. She has taught Spanish since 1988 to all ages - from four-year-olds to adults - and she has been employed by Madison County High School, Albemarle High School, and The Covenant School. She and her husband, Richard, started homeschooling their children in 2010 and in 2013 they started their own small business, The Sycamore Tree, a Christian bookstore.

### **Richard Nootbaar**

Mr. Nootbaar taught World History at The Covenant School in Charlottesville for seven years from 2004 to 2011 after completing his Master in Education (M.Ed.) degree at UVa.'s Curry School of Education. Mr. Nootbaar studied Archaeology, History, and Ancient Greek and Latin as an undergraduate at Bowdoin College. He began teaching at ACTS in 2013. The only things that interest him more than teaching are his relationship with Christ and his devotion to his family. Mr. Nootbaar and his wife are the owners of The Sycamore Tree, a Christian book and gift store in Charlottesville.

### **Sarah Otis**

Raising and homeschooling my four children has been one of my greatest joys! My oldest is married, two are in college and one is being home-schooled. I love all things creative and finding beauty in daily life. My girls and I have enjoyed many spontaneous painting parties around the kitchen table. We also love bringing our art supplies along on picnics so we can capture the beauty around us. I am excited to teach my students to enjoy painting and being creative. I am so thankful to God for the opportunity of homeschooling and being at ACTS.

## **Meet the Teachers**

### **Kathy Pierson**

Kathy Pierson has a B.S. in Biology from Geneva College, and graduated from the Cardiovascular technology program at The Inova Heart & Vascular Institute in Fairfax, VA. She worked for ten years in a cardiac catheterization lab prior to having children. She has been teaching at ACTS since 2003 and at CHESSIE since 2007. Kathy and her husband Tom, have three sons (Josh, Zach, & Nathaniel) and homeschooled from 1994-2014. She and her family are members of Trinity PCA church. She teaches grade 3&4 science & 7<sup>th</sup> grade life science at ACTS.

### **Susan Proffitt**

Susan graduated from Piedmont Virginia Community College with an A.S. in Education, and from Mary Baldwin College with a B.A. in English and a teaching certificate in elementary education. Susan taught 3rd-5th grades at Northside Christian School in Charlottesville for 9 years, and then was a home daycare provider for 9 years. She began homeschooling in 2003. Her oldest two children have graduated, and she currently homeschools her daughter.

### **Donna Richardson**

Donna received a BA in Environmental Science with a minor in Scientific Computing from the University of Virginia. She also earned an MS in Civil Engineering from UVA. Before having children, Donna worked for five years as a Hydrologist for the US Geological Survey. She has home schooled her two children, Rachel and Kelly, from Kindergarten through graduation from high school. Donna has taught Sunday school for children of many ages and Precept Upon Precept Bible studies for women. She has a passion for God's word and for science and enjoys getting to know the Creator through the study of His creation.

### **Venita Richmond**

Teaching is Venita's passion. She has a M.Ed. in education from The Ohio State University and believes that learning should never be boring. She has two children currently at ACTS, and two in college: one attending her alma mater and another attending Virginia Tech.

### **Pamella Sealander**

Pamella has a BS in Biology from Davidson College and a MD from the University of North Carolina. After graduation, she worked as a pediatric resident physician at Pitt County Memorial Hospital for one year before deciding to be a stay-at-home mom. Pamella has five children whom she has homeschooled. She has taught math and science at homeschooling co-ops for several years and currently teaches Science Exploration K-2 and Biology at ACTS. She hopes to share with her students her love of science and interest in God's amazing creation.

## **Meet the Teachers**

### **Lisa Sheffield**

Miss Lisa received her BA in French at Mount Holyoke College in Mass. and spent her junior year in Paris soaking up the culture and language. Though her 'maman' was French, Miss Lisa was obstinate about speaking it 'en famille' as a child! She homeschooled her three children through ACTS and is currently a helper in Mrs. Gritsko's Art through the Centuries class, so she knows many of you already. Miss Lisa also teaches French to elementary school students in private and public schools around Cville through the Alliance Française where she loves using videos, games, crafts, and fun activities to learn the language. As a believer, her faith lays the foundation for all she does whether being a wife, mom, friend, or teacher.

### **Sharon Shelton**

Sharon Shelton has an M.S. degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from Mississippi State University and worked for several years at the Diagnostic DNA lab of UVA hospital. Sharon and her husband, Brian, have homeschooled their 4 children, Mary, Abigail, Robert, and John. Sharon has been teaching science classes for homeschoolers for 15 years and especially enjoys high school level courses. She also has fun leading science activities at CHESSIE summer science camps.

### **Joseph Sigalas**

Joseph's PhD studies included English medieval literature, Renaissance Drama, and early "exploration literature" about the pre-colonial New World. He also spent time at Oxford as part of his doctoral studies at the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs!), received his MA at UVA, and his BA (in creative writing, media writing, and literature) at Chapman University. Since reluctantly leaving college teaching, he has worked as a writer and editor at CDC, NGIC, and today, Leidos, Inc. Joseph has been married to Susan since 1995 and loves being a dad to Ginny, Meg, and Gwen. He is grateful to be able to serve God and students through the ACTS community.

### **Susan Sigalas**

Susan Sigalas has a PhD in English from the University of Georgia and has been teaching writing and literature to college students for over twenty years. She has also worked as an editor for CreateSpace, an independent publishing company. Susan and her husband, Joseph, have been homeschooling their children, Ginny, Meg, and Gwen, since they started school and have been members of ACTS since 2007.

### **Adrienne Vanderveer**

Though Mrs. Vanderveer graduated from and practiced in the field of Veterinary Medicine, she discovered that her true passion is teaching. Her delight is pointing others to the wonder of our amazing God through creative and engaging activities. She loves teaching Great Words of Art through ACTS, being "Mama" to three, police officer wife and part-time children's ministry assistant in her church in Fluvanna County.

### **Martha Young**

Mrs. Young was born and raised in Colombia, South America. She speaks Spanish and English fluently, as she has lived in the United States since 1993. She is married to Jim, and has two children, Christopher, and Katherine.

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