

ACTS

Albemarle Christian Teaching Support, Inc.

Course Descriptions and Teacher Information 2021-2022

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Courses are arranged in alphabetical order under each course category.

Course Descriptions

Art

Art Through the Centuries

Teacher: Sunny Gritsko

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$55</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>5-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

This is a multi-media art class using the world's great artists as inspiration. 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 as well as experiencing a variety of art methods such as: 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

A student may take this class for up to two years (A, B) as different projects/lessons are offered each year.

Art

Ceramics

Teacher: Robin Rakow

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$95)</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>*7-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>No</i>

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.

**Parents, please note that Ceramics will require an additional time commitment beyond our Monday class time. While details are still being solidified at this time, students will need to travel to a local studio (in Charlottesville) for their pieces to be glazed and fired. This will not be required each week, however students need to be aware that a little extra time will need to be spent preparing their final pieces away from ACTS. Thanks so much!

Art

Great Words of Art

Teacher: Adrienne Vanderveer

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	None
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-4
<i>Accepts 2nd 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 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

ONLINE ONLY

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$0
<i>Textbook:</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Introduction to Studio Art will be held online on Wednesdays from 10:10AM-11:05AM.

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.

Art

Painting: Acrylic
Teacher: Sarah Otis

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1hr+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Students will explore Acrylic painting and learn new skills. Acrylics are an incredibly versatile medium. They are water-based but dry to a waterproof finish. Using Acrylics, 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 process and develop individual artistic expression.

Supply list:

Acrylic paint
Watercolor paper
Variety of brushes
Palette
Water container
Pencil and eraser

Art

Painting: Watercolor
Teacher: Sarah Otis

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1hr+</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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)
Variety of brushes
Watercolor paints (tube or pan)
Palette
Water container
Pencil and eraser

Art

Start with Art

Teacher: Emily Reiner

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i> <i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$50)</i>	\$50
<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 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

If your child is ready to jump into art and express their creativity 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.

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 \$50 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

ONLINE ONLY

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	
<i>Textbook</i>	No
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Studio Arts for High School will be held online on Wednesdays from 11:10AM-12:05AM.

The drawing skills emphasized in the Introduction to Studio Art class will continue in this high school studio art class, which is entirely online. 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. 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 photo using a grid concept, and a finished portrait drawing in color from a live model.

The educational emphasis will be on artistic discipline (hard work and practice) and individual improvement in drawing 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 1/2" 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.

Drama

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

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	<i>\$20</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>yes*</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem and late enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

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.

Drama

Drama Tyme K-5

Teacher: Whitney Gatesman

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<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>6/14</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In this class, students will explore the world of Drama through fun theatre games, skits, scene work, improvisation, the components of Musical Theatre (drama, music, dance), costuming, and much more! The class will perform during the Christmas and Spring ACTS events.

The material fee covers scripts, copies, instructional supplies, some costume & prop materials, and class activity supplies. (some costume and prop items will be requested from home).

* *memorizing*

Electives

American Girls Rock! **Teacher: Miriam Nissley**

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
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 nd 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 time-period of each doll selected. Girls do not have to own an American Girl doll to participate in the class.

Time period of historical dolls to be studied for 2021-2022:

1812 – Caroline

1864 – Addy

1944 – Molly & Emily

1974 – Julie & Ivy

Booklist:

<p>Unit 1 – Caroline (BeForever Series) <u>Captain of the Ship</u> – Caroline Classic 1</p> <p>Unit 2 – Addy (BeForever Series) <u>Finding Freedom</u> – Addy Classic Vol.1</p> <p><i>Optional: (Addy) <u>Real Stories from My Time: The Underground Railroad</u>, Scholastic AG Book</i></p>	<p>Unit 3 – Milly & Emily (central series) <u>Meet Molly: An American Girl</u> <u>Molly Learns a Lesson: A School Story</u> <u>Molly's Surprise: A Christmas Story</u></p> <p>Unit 4 – Julie & Ivy (BeForever Series) <u>The Big Break</u> – Julie Classic 1 <u>Good Luck, Ivy</u></p>
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Books: We will be using the unabridged version of the BeForever Series. Many of these books can be found used or at the library, generally, in the Central Series format. This year, reading will be assigned for ½ of the series of each doll, although content of the course may cover topics from the whole series.

Option for Avid Readers: If you would like the full series reading plan, please contact Mrs. Nissley for additional titles.

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

Brick Builders K-2

Teacher: Lacey Holmes

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<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>10/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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 can share their creation with their peers. Come build with us!

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

**Due to the age of students and the nature of our play, this class will not be held if there are masking and social distancing requirements

Electives

Crafting with Flair **Teacher: Susan Proffitt**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$50</i>
<i>(2nd semester fee, \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1 hr.</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/10</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-6</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

In Crafting with Flair, students will explore different ways of expressing their creativity through craft projects. We cover basic sewing skills like various stitches and learning how to sew on a button. Other skills covered in the class are decoupage, napkin folding, wreath making, holiday decor, cross stitch, yarn projects, cake decorating, food crafts, and many more. After learning a new skill, we put the skill to use in a fun and useful project, often trying to "upcycle" old materials into a new creation. Projects rotate on a 3-year cycle.

Electives

Engineering & Robotics I Teacher: Cara Kidd

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
(2 nd semester fee, \$25)	
Textbook:	None
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	None
Min/Max Students:	10/18
Grade Level:	7-8
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes

Students learn the basics of sequential thinking, hardware, software, control loops and sensing. Students team to complete challenges like following a line, infrared sensing, responding to touch and more.

Using SCRATCH, a visually-oriented programming language designed by MIT, students learn introductory coding by making beginner video games and animations! Learn gaming tools like sprites, backgrounds and costumes and coding concepts for motion, control, sound and logic. SCRATCH also gives students experience with digital and pixel art as well as sound recording and mixing. By the end of the course students are able to run a beginner level animation and video game.

Class explores the basics of robotics by playing with Ozobot mini-bots. As beginner programmers, students learn how to connect the physical and digital worlds through very simple programming apps. Ozobots can sense color and follow lines to complete mazes and challenges. Students also study Makey-Makey, which gives them practice with circuits and programming their own musical instrument using everyday objects.

****Access to a laptop to bring to class is required!

Electives

An Introduction to Christian Theology Teacher: Tony Monaghan

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$0
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	3/15
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10 th -12 th
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	No

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 20th century, J.I. Packer from the perspective of late 20th 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

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$45</i>
<i>(2nd semester fee, \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3-4</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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. Each year new curriculum will be used to allow students to continue in the class for 2 years.

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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>(2nd semester fee, \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	no
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	n/a
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	5-6
<i>Accepts 2nd 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. Each year new curriculum will be used to allow students to continue in the class for 2 years.

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

STrEAMers

Teacher: Cara Kidd

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$40</i>
<i>(2nd semester fee, \$20)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>1-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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.

Electives

Success with Chess

Teacher: Tony Monaghan

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$135</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

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.

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 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.

Electives – Semester

Christian Worldview

Teacher: Dan Gritsko

(Fall Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>2-4</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>

This course has been created with the hope of supporting ACTS families who desire their son or daughter to deepen their understanding of the Christian faith by enhancing their development of a Christian Worldview.

Outline

We will start and finish the course by investigating Daniel chapter 1.

We will look at the basics of all worldviews.

We will define and discuss the basics of a Christian worldview.

We will examine the central event of history.

We will apply that event as a grid for the study of history and contrast it with contemporary American worldview claims, and other worldviews.

We will also discuss the development and practical application of a Christian worldview as it impacts all areas of the life of the student.

We will reference current events.

Course goals:

To deepen a student's understanding of the Christian worldview.

For students to be able to apply a Christian worldview.

For students to be equipped to better understand the world around them.

To support Christian families as they impart Christian faith to their children.

Textbook: You do not need to purchase this separately. The book, *Thinking Like a Christian: Student Journal* by Edwards and Noble will be purchased in bulk by Mr. Gritsko using the material fees. Material fees will also be used for copies and handouts. Key applications from Daniel chapter 1, and a "Colson" approach to worldview, form the framework for the class.

Optional field trip to Washington D.C. (date TBD - usually early December) We will likely plan to charter a motor coach and tour Washington D.C. with a Christian worldview focus, led by Mr. Gritsko who has 30 years of experience in educational travel. Cost and details for the trip will come in early fall. Many ACTS families have enjoyed this annual trip.

Electives - Semester

Economics

Teacher: Mike Henderson

(Fall Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$5</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1.5</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>

This course will provide a broad overview of our rapidly changing economy. We'll look at economic fundamentals, behavioral economics, monetary and fiscal policy, government intervention, supply and demand, inflation, and more. In today's environment the student needs to understand the intersection of politics and the economy as well as the differences between socialism and capitalism.

Electives – Semester

Foundations in Personal Finance

Teacher: Mike Henderson

(Spring Semester only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>

This course will provide a practical life plan for personal finances. Winning with money is the goal of the course. We'll talk about everything from budgets to mortgages, emergency funds, to paying for college, to investing. Along the way we'll cover the downside of debt, the need to start investing early, and provide practical answers to everything in between.

Electives – Semester

High School Photography & Videography I

Teacher: Lily Garay

(Fall Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$120</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course will teach the basics of photography and videography. The goal will be to have students be able to shoot in RAW, shoot basic portraits, and learn different techniques for macro and micro photography. We will also be studying ad campaigns, basic business marketing skills, and taking a look at some well-known photographers. Students must have a digital camera they can use in class.

**WE WILL BE EDITING PHOTOS WITH LIGHTROOM. STUDENTS WILL NEED A PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION (currently \$10/month).*

Electives – Semester

High School Photography & Videography II

Teacher: Lily Garay

(Spring Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$150</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/18</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course will continue with the basics of photography and videography (Photography I is not required to take this course). We will be studying ad campaigns, learning to keep up with trends, how to pitch to potential clients, and continuing to look at well-known photographers/videographers. Students must have a digital camera they can use in class.

**WE WILL BE EDITING PHOTOS WITH LIGHTROOM. STUDENTS WILL NEED A PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION (currently \$10/month).*

Electives – Semester

Middle School Photography & Videography I

Teacher: Lily Garay

(Fall Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$100</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1 hr</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>6/16</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course will teach the basics of photography and videography. The goal will be to have students be able to shoot in RAW, shoot basic portraits, and learn different techniques for macro and micro photography. We will also be studying ad campaigns, basic business marketing skills, and taking a look at some well-known photographers. Students must have a digital camera they can use in class.

**WE WILL BE EDITING PHOTOS WITH LIGHTROOM. STUDENTS WILL NEED A PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION (currently \$10/month).*

Electives – Semester

Middle School Photography & Videography II

Teacher: Lily Garay

(Spring Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course</i>	<i>\$125</i>
<i>Fee:</i>	
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>Textbook:</i>	n/a
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1 hr
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	n/a

This course will continue with the basics of photography and videography (Photography I is not required to take this course). We will be studying ad campaigns, learning to keep up with trends, and continuing to look at well-known photographers/videographers. Students must have a digital camera they can use in class.

**WE WILL BE EDITING PHOTOS WITH LIGHTROOM. STUDENTS WILL NEED A PREMIUM SUBSCRIPTION (currently \$10/month).*

Electives - Semester

Speech/Communication

Teacher: Dan Gritsko

(Fall Semester Only)

<i>Semester Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$80</i>
<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>1-2hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>n/a</i>

This course for 8th -12th graders will help students develop public speaking skills / communication skills, and motivation to use their God-given gifts to impact the world around them. I am excited for your son or daughter to join the class!

Overview:

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

The materials fee will be used for copies and handouts

Foreign Language

Conversational American Sign Language (Intermediate) **Teacher: Glenda Atkins**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$15</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1+hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>*</i>

Conversational ASL class will be an intermediate level class. Students should already have some experience with Sign Language. We will spend the first few weeks reviewing some basics: fingerspelling, numbers, asking and answering questions, etc. After that, our goal will be to mostly "turn off" our voices and communicate as much as possible using sign language only. This will be mentally challenging. Students will have to be fully engaged. We will discuss a different topic each week and learn any new vocabulary during our conversations. Sometimes we may watch a video, play games or participate in other activities to reinforce what the students have learned.

This class can be lots of fun and will be somewhat directed by the interests of students. Their homework will often be to come up with questions about a given topic to discuss in class and they will learn as they go.

Students are not required to purchase a textbook. However, they should buy or have access to an ASL dictionary and/or websites as a reference. Feel free to ask me about any books before you purchase if you would like my advice.

*2nd semester enrollment will be granted only with teacher approval

Foreign Language

French I

Teacher: Lisa Sheffield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	no

This is an introductory HS level course. Students will begin learning language through listening, reading, writing, and lots of speaking. We will be covering grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, French culture, and translation. 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.

*May contact teacher for exemptions to enter class

Foreign Language

French III

Teacher: Lisa Sheffield

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/10
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	no

This is an upper high school level French class. We will continue to solidify our use of the 2 past tenses we learned in French 2. we will complete the textbook and learn how to use the future tense, make travel arrangements, express our feelings, talk about the environment and its protection, and more shopping among other things. There will be 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

Foreign Language

German I

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$40
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:</i>	3-5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/8
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	no

This is a high school level German class; upon completion you can put GERMAN 1 on your high school transcript. You should expect to spend 3-5 hours each week on homework and learning vocab.

We will use a German 1 textbook, projects, games, songs, bible verses and more to gain a basic foundation in German.

Students will learn to count, ask and answer lots of basic German questions, learn adjectives, how to write simple sentences, verbs, and lots of vocab. Students will learn about the German speaking countries, customs, and more. After taking this class students will appreciate people who speak several languages or non-native English speakers – trying to speak English.

Required:

- Deutsch Aktuell, level 1, 2010 student edition textbook.
- A three-ring binder
- Access to the internet for vocabulary learning (I found this to be faster than students creating their own flashcards – using online ones that I have created. This allows them to do it in several ways, be tested – for themselves, and play games with specific learned vocabulary.), and time, daily, to practice (with a combination of Worksheets, textbook work and learning vocabulary).

Foreign Language

Introduction to American Sign Language

Teacher: Glenda Atkins

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<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>	5/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	*

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.)

*2nd semester enrollment will be granted only with teacher approval

Foreign Language

Middle School French
Teacher: Lisa Sheffield

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<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 2nd 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.

Foreign Language

Spanish K-2 **Teacher: Miriam Nissley** **(Early Elementary)**

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

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 are permitted to 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 or flashcards, or other teaching aids/supplies needed.

Supplies needed:

- 1" to 1 1/2" three ring binder
- Binder pockets (to store odd-sized hand-outs)
- Roomy pencil case for games.
- Pencil with eraser
- Markers
- Colored pencils or crayons
- Pencil and/or crayon sharpener
- Scissors

Foreign Language

Spanish 3-5

Teacher: Mallory Artusio, La Maestra

Espanola

(Upper Elementary)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

This class is designed for comprehensible exposure to Spanish. Students will be introduced to the sounds of the Spanish language in the first few weeks of class to solidify a foundation. Then, we will work the remainder of the year on listening, reading, writing, and speaking to build vocabulary using thematic units that easily correlate to everyday life (weather, home, seasonal vocabulary, etc). Hispanic and Latin American culture, cuisine, and geography will be included throughout the course. The focus for this class is expanding input and absorption through listening, speaking, games, songs, reading, writing, and project-based-learning.

Goals:

- Work with numbers up to 100 in Spanish; acquire knowledge of numbers to 1,000
- Read, write, and spell at a basic level in Spanish, especially in response to a reading passage (ie, comprehension questions) or teacher-directed questions.
- Grasp the sense of a literature passage read independently or read aloud, and to narrate in English or Spanish the basic idea of what they have read or heard.
- Describe something they have seen, heard, or studied in Spanish using thematic vocabulary and phrases
- Complete thematic projects throughout the year that foster comprehension and language permanence.

Homework structure: A homework/activity packet is sent out each week, which may include a reading passage or fluency ladder, writing practice, a suggested song/media selection, a game, and/or instructions for any projects to be completed. Students would benefit greatly by being exposed to Spanish as often as possible when not in class.

Materials* Needed: a ½” binder or homework folder, a binder pouch or container for game materials, and a pencil case. (*Teacher provided*)

*Media options:

- [Fabulingua](#) - A fabulous story telling app in Spanish (\$35/year, family account up to six children, included in materials fee)
- Duolingo - A well-known free app for learning a language (*Note to parents: some material must be filtered for age appropriateness and/or religious concerns.)

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra craft supplies, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

Foreign Language

Spanish 5-8 Level I
Teacher: Martha Young
(Middle School)

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<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 2nd 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 I
Teacher: Mallory Artusio, La Maestra
Espanola
(High School)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	2-4
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	*yes

This course is designed to meet the minimum requirements for high school foreign language credit. In this course, we will be covering music, art, grammar, translation, literature, thematic vocabulary, pronunciation and conversation, speaking and listening exercises, culture, and cuisine.

Class time will focus on conversational Spanish, introducing grammatical structures, present and past tenses, review work, quizzes, culture, and communicating in Spanish. Students will need computer or internet access outside of class time to participate in office hours and team projects, and to complete quizzes, tests, or homework using online applications and instructor links.

This class is 50% immersion in spoken Spanish, and it is beneficial but not required to have previous exposure to Spanish. You can do it!

Goals: This class utilizes the VA DOE SOLs for Foreign Language Learning as a guide to ensure students would meet Virginia requirements for high school foreign language credit: (https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/foreign_language/2014/spanish/stds_spanish1-4.pdf) and the American Council for Teachers of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines to assess student progress and proficiency (transferrable to future careers and life opportunities): <https://www.actfl.org/resources/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012/spanish>

Homework structure: Homework instructions and expectations are established in the beginning of the year on the course syllabus. Check-ins and weekly plans are available on the website (currently being updated). Homework will include reading, writing, listening activities, cultural or geographical information, games, and instructions for student selected and instructor guided projects/presentations. Students are expected to be exposed to Spanish almost daily in order to be successful in this class and receive credit.

*Materials Needed: a binder, a binder pouch for games and materials, sheet protector, a pencil case, and a homework/handout folder.

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

*with teacher approval

Foreign Language

Spanish II

Teacher: Mallory Artusio, La Maestra

Espanola (High School)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$50
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	2-4
Min/Max Students:	6/16
Grade Level:	8+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	Yes*

This course is designed to meet the minimum requirements for high school foreign language credit. In this course, we will be covering music, art, grammar, translation, literature, thematic vocabulary, pronunciation and conversation, speaking and listening exercises, culture, and cuisine.

Class time will focus on conversational Spanish, introducing grammatical structures, present and past tenses, review work, quizzes, culture, and communicating in Spanish. Students will need computer or internet access outside of class time to participate in office hours and team projects, and to complete quizzes, tests, or homework using online applications and instructor links.

This class is 50% immersion in spoken Spanish, and it is beneficial but not required to have previous exposure to Spanish. You can do it!

Goals: This class utilizes the VA DOE SOLs for Foreign Language Learning as a guide to ensure students would meet Virginia requirements for high school foreign language credit: (https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/foreign_language/2014/spanish/stds_spanish1-4.pdf) and the American Council for Teachers of Foreign Languages Proficiency Guidelines to assess student progress and proficiency (transferrable to future careers and life opportunities): <https://www.actfl.org/resources/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012/spanish>

Homework structure: Homework instructions and expectations are established in the beginning of the year on the course syllabus. Check-ins and weekly plans are available on the website (currently being updated). Homework will include reading, writing, listening activities, cultural or geographical information, games, and instructions for student selected and instructor guided projects/presentations. Students are expected to be exposed to Spanish almost daily in order to be successful in this class and receive credit.

*Materials Needed: a binder, a binder pouch for games and materials, sheet protector, a pencil case, and a homework/handout folder.

*Materials fee (\$50) covers: hand-outs, worksheets, lessons, games, extra teaching supplies, media purchases for class or home use, and project materials.

*with teacher approval

Geography

World Geography & Cultures K-2 Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$180
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 nd 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.

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 an optional coloring sheet on the country to reinforce his or her learning experience.

Since each country is covered during weekly class time, there is no additional work that students need to complete at home.

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.

Geography

World Geography & Cultures 3-5 **Teacher: Carol Henderson**

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$18)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-5
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 3-5, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

Class time starts with maps. Every week, students will find the theme country on the continent map, as well as other significant points of interest. Students will work with both labeled and unlabeled maps and will use both continent maps and country maps.

Next comes several activities on the country's flag, followed by researching the country together with photos, video, and the required Atlas. Students are expected to take notes on this material.

Students will also create a personalized Geography Glossary, adding a new geography term each week.

Homework includes using class notes to complete attractive Notebooking/Journaling pages supplied by the teacher, as well as finishing any activities not fully completed during class.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the Notebooking Set for each student (\$10), plus the maps, flags, supplies for any additional activities, and photocopying of all handouts. Parents must purchase the required Atlas separately.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) YOUR CHOICE of one of the following Atlases:
 - Best for Grades 3-4: DK Pub, "Our World in Pictures, Countries of the World", 2020 Edition
 - Best for Grades 4-5: DK Publishing, "Geography of the World", 2006 Edition
- 3) Colored Pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags
- 4) lined Notebook Paper for taking notes in class

Geography

World Geography 6-8

Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$25
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$18)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	1-2
Min/Max Students:	8/16
Grade Level:	6-8
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes

NOTE: INTERNET ACCESS REQUIRED.

In World Geography & Cultures for Grades 6-8, students will travel the globe to get a glimpse of other countries around the world, learning natural geography, landmarks, culture, economy, food, and more along the way. Each year in this 3-year course covers completely different countries from all 6 populated continents as well as selected regions of the US.

Students use continent maps to find the theme country and other related locations. Students will work with both labeled and unlabeled maps and will use both continent maps and country maps along the way.

The class will research the country together with photos, video, and the required Atlas. Students are expected to take notes on this material. Further research at home will require INTERNET ACCESS.

Students will also create a personalized Geography Glossary, adding a new geography term each week.

Homework includes using class notes to complete attractive Notebooking/Journaling pages supplied by the teacher, as well as finishing any activities not fully completed during class. Homework may require INTERNET ACCESS to look up additional information.

The Materials Fee covers the purchase of the Notebooking Set for each student (\$10), plus the maps, flags, supplies for any additional activities, and photocopying of all handouts. Parents must purchase the required Atlas separately.

Items to Purchase:

- 1) 3-ring binder
- 2) DK Publishing, "Geography of the World", 2006 Edition
- 3) Colored Pencils for labeling/shading maps and coloring flags
- 4) Lined notebook paper for taking notes in class

History

Cool Medieval History (Grades 6-8)

Teacher: Adrienne Vanderveer

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<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>	1-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

History is NOT just a bunch of dead people! HiSTORY is a STORY--a winding story through time. A story of men and women, children and youth, young and old, just like you and me. A story of heroes and villains, of victories and defeats, of discoveries and dangers. It is a story of every-day choices that changed families and communities and of epic adventures that changed the world. History is simply looking through the lens of time at people who lived life before YOU did. It is discovering how they chose well and how they chose poorly. It is investigating how and why they made those choices, recognizing what you may have done differently and understanding how YOU can grow from what you know.

The heartbeat of this class is NOT simply a recognition/memorization of dates and events but instead an opportunity for a deeper investigation of the people and events that have shaped our world. We will reflect on how they influence our lives still today and cultivate a recognition of how OUR choices will become history and impact others in the future.

This course covers World and Church History from the fall of the Roman Empire, through the Medieval Era/Middle Ages and onward to the Renaissance. From Julius Caesar to Queen Elizabeth and from Constantine to William Tyndale, we will explore many of the extreme and exceptional people and events that brought both darkness and light to these turbulent times.

Your young historians will be:

1. Encouraged to investigate the people, places and events of the Modern Era
2. Engaged in weekly class discussions that foster a Biblical world view
3. Expected to complete the weekly homework assignments and special projects (one per semester-"History is in the Bag")
4. Enthusiastically greeted by a facilitator who is passionate about the subject!

Class time will include "History Breaks the Ice" activities, Medieval time period map work, weekly "Heroes and Villains" open discussions and, as time permits, "Renaissance smART", "Stand Up and Be Counted" church history investigation and "Flap Through History" timeline work.

Homework will include reading the corresponding chapter from the textbook and completing a Cool History set of questions that are answered directly from the reading. Additional challenge questions and a list of biographies and living history books will be available for those who wish to have further enrichment opportunities, but they are not required.

The materials fee will cover your historian's maps, question pages, activities, prizes and photocopying costs.

You will need to provide your historian with the following:

**Textbook: Remember the Days/Book Two: Medieval Days by Rob and Julia Nalle, a 2-inch/3-ring binder with a clear pocket on the cover, loose-leaf notebook paper, colored pencils and one highlighter—any color

**Textbook info: parents will receive a discount code prior to the beginning of ACTS in order to purchase their textbook from the authors' website or in-person at ACTS orientation.

History

Cool Modern History, 1850-Present (Grades 6-8)

Teacher: Adrienne Vanderveer

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

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The heartbeat of this class is NOT simply a recognition/memorization of dates and events but instead an opportunity for a deeper investigation of the people and events that have shaped our world. We will reflect on how they influence our lives still today and cultivate a recognition of how OUR choices will become history and impact others in the future.

This course covers both World and U.S. History in order to offer your students a more complete understanding of the people, nations and events that interacted with and affected one another during this time period. From the Underground Railroad to the Wars in the Middle East, we will explore each continent and the events that transpired from around 1850 through the recent past.

Your young historians will be:

1. Encouraged to investigate the people, places and events of the Modern Era
2. Engaged in weekly class discussions that foster a Biblical world view
3. Expected to complete the weekly homework assignments and special projects (one per semester-"History is in the Bag")
4. Enthusiastically greeted by a facilitator who is passionate about the subject

Class time will include "History Breaks the Ice" activities, U.S. and World map work, weekly "Heroes and Villains" open discussions and, as time permits, "Presidential Pop Art", "State of the Union" activities and "Flap Through History" timeline work.

Homework will include reading the corresponding chapter from the textbook and completing a Cool History set of questions that are answered directly from the reading. Additional challenge questions and a list of biographies and living history books will be available for those who wish to have further enrichment opportunities, but they are not required.

The materials fee will cover your historian's maps, question pages, activities, prizes and photocopying costs.

You will need to provide your historian with the following:

**Textbook: Remember the Days/Book Four: Modern Days by Rob and Julia Nalle, one 2-inch/3-ring binder with a clear pocket on the cover, loose-leaf notebook paper, colored pencils and one highlighter—any color

**Textbook info: parents will receive a discount code prior to the beginning of ACTS in order to purchase their textbook from the authors' website or in-person at ACTS orientation.

History

Government and Presidential History – Year A Teacher: Bethany Hamner

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<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>1-2</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>4-5*</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes*</i>

Your student will gain an understanding of how our government works. We will begin by studying the three branches of government. We will also learn about Washington DC buildings and the people that occupy them. We will also learn about Electoral College and we have a fun game to help the students with that concept. Finally, we will learn about all our presidents during this 2-year course. We play a game every week, whether it is Jeopardy, a presidential trivia game, or Election Night, and we always have a fun time. At the end of the year, students will pick their favorite president from that year and do a living history presentation. At the completion of the second year, your student will have a scrapbook with pictures/information on all the US Presidents.

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

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

*2nd semester enrollment – yes, but student’s scrapbook will be incomplete

History

Hands on History: Medieval & Renaissance (Year 2) Teacher: Carol Henderson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	1-2 hrs.
Min/Max Students:	7/14
Grade Level:	3-6
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes

This Hands-On History course uses BiblioPlan's Remember the Days: Medieval Days as its textbook. The class starts with the Fall of Rome and continues through the medieval era to the discovery of the New World.

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 Roman Standard, a Viking Longship, a Robin Hood cap, a Norman helmet, a Medieval Life & Times lapbook, and many more exciting activities!

For homework, the student must read the assigned textbook chapter(s) and fill-in a short-answer worksheet. The student is expected to read books outside of the textbook, and to share an extracurricular book with the class 3X per year.

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 a Review Game once each quarter. The competition fosters a motivation to study, and the game is structured to reward individual achievement.

The 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 to Purchase:

- BiblioPlan's Remember the Days: Medieval Days (receive a discount code prior to the beginning of ACTS in order to purchase the textbook from the authors' website or in-person at ACTS orientation)

Supplies to purchase:

- 3-ring Binder
- 1 set of colored pencils for map homework

History

Hands-On History: Modern Teacher: Adrienne Vanderveer

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<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 w/e.:</i>	1-3hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	3-6
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

History is NOT just a bunch of dead people! HiSTORY is a STORY--a winding story through time. A story of men and women, children and youth, young and old, just like you and me. A story of heroes and villains, of victories and defeats, of discoveries and dangers. It is a story of every-day choices that changed families and communities and of epic adventures that changed the world. History is simply looking through the lens of time at people who lived life before YOU did. It is discovering how they chose well and how they chose poorly. It is investigating how and why they made those choices, recognizing what you may have done differently and understanding how YOU can grow from what you know.

“Once upon a time.....” and “long, long ago” are not merely the stuff of fairy tales and fables. Through various enrichment and hands-on activities, elementary students grade 3-6 will be encouraged to recognize the inspirational, amazing and exceptional people and events that have transpired throughout this era in history.

This course covers U.S. and World History taught together in order to offer the student a more complete picture of how the people, nations and events of the modern era affected one another and the world as we know it today.

Your young historians will be:

1. Encouraged to investigate the people, places and events of the Modern Era
2. Engaged in weekly class discussions that foster a Biblical world view
3. Expected to complete the weekly homework assignments and special projects (one per semester- "History is in the Bag")
4. Enthusiastically greeted by a facilitator who is passionate about the subject!

Class time will include “History Breaks the Ice” activities, “Where in the World?” U.S. and World map work, weekly “Who Done It?” & “And Then What Happened?” discussions based on their reading and, as time permits, “Presidential Pop Art”, “State of the Union” activities, “Flap Through History” timeline work and a semester-long read-aloud.

Homework will include reading the corresponding chapter from the textbook and completing a Cool History set of questions that are answered directly from the reading. Additional challenge questions and a list of biographies and living history books will be available for those who wish to have further enrichment opportunities, but they are not required.

The materials fee will cover your historian’s maps, question pages, activities, prizes and photocopying costs.

You will need to provide your historian with the following: **Textbook: Remember the Days/Book Four: Modern Days by Rob and Julia Nalle, a 2-inch/3-ring binder with a clear pocket on the cover, loose-leaf notebook paper, colored pencils and one highlighter—any color

**Textbook info: parents will receive a discount code prior to the beginning of ACTS in order to purchase their textbook from the authors’ website or in-person at ACTS orientation.

History

U.S. Government
Teacher: Dave Merriman

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>TBD</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>1.5 hrs</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>10/25</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>9-12</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Primary goal of this course is for students to understand the roles of federal, state, and local governments and how they affect daily life. To reach this end we will discuss the history, development, and fundamental documents of our countries governmental system.

A textbook is yet to be determined. A wide variety of online and photocopied will be provided.

History

United States History:
Teacher: Dave Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<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>	2 hr.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	10/25
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This class is a survey course spanning early America to the 21st century and is thus of necessity a broad overview. To enhance the overview students will be challenged to apply a deeper understanding questions to each period of U.S. History. These questions will include: what was the average American's life like, how were different groups of Americans viewed and treated, and how was God's guiding hand revealed.

Note: there is no prerequisite.

Textbook: "The American Vision" by Appleby, Binkley etc. Glencoe/Hill 1 edition (Jan 21, 2010)

Language Arts: Literature

Adventures in Literature 2-4:

Year 1

Teacher: Julie Snell

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
<i>Monthly Installment</i>	\$25
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$35
<i>(if joining 2nd semester, \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-2 hrs.
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/12
<i>Grade Level:</i>	2-4
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

*This is Year 1 of a three-year cycle of this class (new books each year).

In Adventures in Literature we will enjoy exploring, discussing, and furthering our learning of a handful of wonderful, classic chapter books. We will also read in class and discuss a few beautiful picture storybooks I will bring in throughout the year (these books are primarily chosen from the curriculum - Five in a Row, volume 4, new edition). We will learn to recognize plot, character development, learn new vocabulary, and most importantly – ENJOY and love books!! In addition to class discussions, we will delve into topics related to our books with other class readings, games, and a variety of hands-on classroom activities. Students will need a 1” three-ring notebook and their own copies of our chapter books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options as well (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). A student dictionary at home is recommended for our vocabulary work.

I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in the anticipated reading order and the edition I recommend:

- My Father’s Dragon – ISBN 10 – 0486492834 or ISBN 13 – 978-0486492834
- Mr. Popper’s Penguins – ISBN 10 – 0316058432 or ISBN 13 – 978-0316058438
- The Boxcar Children – ISBN 10 – 0807508527 or ISBN 13 – 978-0807508527
- Charlotte’s Web – ISBN 10 – 0064400557 or ISBN 13 – 978-0064400558
- The Cricket in Times Square – ISBN 10 – 0312380038 or ISBN 13 – 978-0312380038

Homework will include weekly reading assignments (or audiobook/read aloud).

Other assignments might include entries in the student reading journal pages, defining vocabulary words, completing worksheets, occasional video link, optional recipes, and others. Materials fee covers curriculum, supplies for class hands-on activities, games, class rewards, art projects, food, reading journal pages and worksheets.

Language Arts: Literature

American Literature
Teacher: Dr. Susan Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining 2nd semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	5
Min/Max Students:	8/16
Grade Level:	8-10
Accepts 2 nd 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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	Yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	10-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	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*. This book also includes essay-writing instruction.

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), *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austin, and *The Screwtape Letters* by C. S. Lewis.

Language Arts: Literature

Introduction to Shakespeare's Plays

Teacher: Laura Ford

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	2+
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9+
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

William Shakespeare is a cultural icon, and no education is complete without understanding his impact on the past and present. In this year-long course, students will explore Shakespeare's world as they read, discuss, and view a handful of his major plays. Students will read two tragedies, two comedies, and one history. Additionally, students will have the option of visiting Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton to view a live performance.

Students should be strong readers as this is a reading-intensive course; however, there will not be any major writing assignments. Class participation and the ability to work cooperatively with classmates are expected.

Prerequisites: None

Required books:

- Folger Shakespeare Library paperback edition of each play, available new/used on Amazon or at Barnes & Noble locally.
- Henry IV, Part 1: ISBN: 978-0-7434-8504-3
- Macbeth, ISBN: 978-0-7434-7710-9
- A Midsummer Night's Dream, ISBN: 978-0-7434-7754-3
- Romeo and Juliet, ISBN: 978-0-7434-7711-6
- Twelfth Night, ISBN: 978-0-7434-8277-6

Language Arts: Literature

Novel Adventures 5-7: Year 1 **Teacher: Julie Snell**

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$35
<i>(if joining 2nd semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:	2-3 hours
Min/Max Students:	5/12
Grade Level:	5-7
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes

*This is Year 1 of a three-year cycle of this class (new books each year).

In Novel Adventures we will enjoy exploring and discussing a handful of classic novels together. We will learn to recognize plot and character development, learn new vocabulary, identify themes, study different writing styles, and mostly – ENJOY and love books!! In addition to our class discussions, we will delve into topics related to our books with additional games, role play, videos, and other class activities.

Students will need a 1” three-ring notebook and their own copies of our chapter books to read at home. Audiobooks or reading aloud to your students are fine options as well, especially for reluctant readers (some of our books are more challenging reads than others). A student dictionary at home is recommended for our vocabulary work.

I encourage you to order these books before our school year starts. They are listed here in the anticipated reading order and the edition I recommend:

- The Door in the Wall – ISBN 10 – 0440227798 or ISBN 13 – 978-0440227793
- Tuck Everlasting – ISBN 10 – 9780312369811 or ISBN 13 – 978-0312369811
- The Twenty-One Balloons – ISBN 10 – 014240330x or ISBN 13 – 978-0142403303
- My Side of the Mountain – ISBN 10 – 0142401110 or ISBN 13 – 978-0142401118
- Where the Mountain Meets the Moon – ISBN 10 – 0316038636 or ISBN 13 – 978-0316038638
- Island of the Blue Dolphins – ISBN 10 – 0545289599 or ISBN 13 – 978-0547328614

Homework will include weekly reading assignments (or audiobook/read aloud), entries in the student reading journal pages, answering reading questions, vocabulary work, short papers, projects, occasional video links, optional recipes, and others.

Materials fee covers curriculum, supplies for class hands-on activities, games, special food, reading journal pages, and worksheets.

Language Arts: Literature

Phonics is Fun!
Teacher: Julie Snell

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$35</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>n/a</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/12</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-1</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

Students will have fun learning and reviewing phonics through movement, games, songs, storybooks, and hands-on projects. We will begin the year with alphabet lessons – names of the letters and their sounds. We will then work on consonant and short vowel sounds and sounding out words. Later, we will move on to long vowels, blends, reading sentences, and short readers. Sight words will be introduced each week. We will do auditory phonemic discrimination exercises and some writing. This class is for the child who has not yet started learning phonics, the child who is newly working on the above skills, or the child who is struggling with these skills. The class will be a fun, low pressure way to learn and reinforce skills.

Materials fee will cover curriculum, books, art supplies, flashcards, worksheets, games, and class rewards.

Language Arts: Literature

**Storybook Adventures K-1:
Year 1
Teacher: Julie Snell**

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

*This is Year 1 of a two-year cycle of this class (new books each year).

In Storybook Adventures we will enjoy a wide variety of childhood favorites and classic storybooks. Our book list and many activities will be taken from the curriculum – Five in a Row, Volume 1. We will take two weeks for each book – reading aloud the story, discussing, and then singing songs, playing games, doing activities, and making art projects that go along with the theme of the book or that further explore topics brought up in our stories. For example, for The Story of Ping, we might learn about ducks, practice using chopsticks, make a Chinese lantern, explore buoyancy, identify China on the map, and learn a few words or a song in Mandarin.

Students will need a 1” binder for class. We will keep a reading log of our books and I will occasionally send home coloring or simple work sheets that we didn’t get to in class or are extras to go with our book study. Additionally, I may at times send suggested movies, video links, recipes, or other enrichments to enjoy at home. This homework is all optional.

Materials fee covers curriculum, supplies for hands-on activities and art projects, class worksheets, class rewards, reading log.

Our book reading schedule will be provided at Orientation.

Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

Academic Writing I

Teacher: Dr. Susan Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$50
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	5
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/20
<i>Grade Level:</i>	7-9
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

Overview: This course is designed for 7th-9th 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. Students will learn about argumentative and other academic forms of writing; the importance of audience and purpose; and documentation of sources in MLA style. Students will learn the importance of organizing, drafting, revising, and editing their essays.

Grammar proficiency: Prior to enrolling, students should be able to write complete sentences and know how to avoid fused sentences (run-ons) and sentence fragments. Grammar will be addressed throughout the year as needed, especially focusing on major editing errors, such as fused sentences, comma splices, sentence fragments, apostrophe errors, pronoun-antecedent agreement errors, and subject-verb agreement errors.

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 and many shorter writing assignments.

Needed materials: A notebook, at least 4 different colored highlighters, computer access with a printer, and an email address that contains the student's last name, preferably a Gmail address since we will turn essays in using Google Classroom.

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

Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

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

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

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.

Please note: Throughout the year, I will occasionally change the schedule or assignments. Students should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. I will record the date of the last update at the top of the page for reference.

Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

College Prep Writing Teacher: Laura Ford

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$15
<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 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This class is designed to prepare 10th through 12th 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 11th grade and follow with British Literature in 12th 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 10th grade level prior to this course. CP Writing will begin with grammar review and include periodic grammar review 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 essays
- 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
- Reader response journal entries

Required texts:

- 40 Model Essays: A Portable Anthology by Jane E. Aaron. 2005 edition. ISBN: 978-0-312-43829-6
- "They Say/I Say": The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing by Gerald Graff & Cathy Birkenstein. 2017 edition. ISBN: 978-0-393-61743-6

Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

Creative Writing 6-8

Teacher: Dr. Joseph Sigalas

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining for the second semester, \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	None*
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	1-3hrs
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	8/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	6-9
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	Yes

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 final drafts well. Success isn't just avoiding mistakes but instead about using techniques intentionally to tell their stories and entertain/engage readers. Often, we will write freely from prompts and then focus on revising our pieces to make the writing more effective—e.g., to 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. Students should check the website and refresh the browser at least twice each week. I will record the date of the last update at the top of the page for reference.

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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<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>	5/16
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8+
<i>Accepts 2nd 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 (2nd edition preferred, but either can be used)

Language Arts: Writing and Grammar

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

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

Math

Algebra I: Made Simple
Teacher: Wendy King

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>yes</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>3-4</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>5/15</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>8-10</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes*</i>

****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 fill our notes and do classwork problems during class. Students will have daily homework to complete at home, along with quizzes and tests to complete at home. The homework will be practice from the current week's lesson, quizzes/tests, or review work.

Books to Purchase:

Abeka Algebra 1 - Highschool Mathematics Student Work Text – 2015 (sailboat front cover)

Abeka Algebra 1 – Solution Key – 2015 version with bar graph on front cover

Math

Algebra II

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	4-5
Min/Max Students:	5/15
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 nd 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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
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:	5/8
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 nd 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 OR 2017 version solution guide only.

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 Simple

Teacher: Wendy King

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$40
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	2-3
Min/Max Students:	5/15
Grade Level:	7-10
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$15
Textbook:	yes
Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:	4-5
Min/Max Students:	4/8
Grade Level:	11+
Accepts 2 nd 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
- Provided: Student Solutions Manual for Stewart/Redlin/Watson's Precalculus: Mathematics for Calculus, 5th by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson (Oct 7, 2005) Paperback ISBN-10: 0534492908 ISBN-13: 978-0534492908
- Graphing Calculator TI 83+ or higher is required

Music

ACTS K-2nd Grade Choir **Teacher: Kristin Baltes**

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<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>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>K-2</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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.

Music

ACTS 3rd-6th Grade Choir

Teacher: Kristin Baltes

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$225</i>
<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>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>3rd-6th</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

ACTS 3rd-6th grade choir is for students in 3rd through 6th 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.

Music

ACTS Choir 7+

Teacher: Kristin Baltes

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$270</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>(second semester materials fee \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>15/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>7+</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>Yes</i>

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.

Music

ACTS Female Vocal Ensemble

Teacher: Kristin Baltes

Audition only

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(materials fee \$20 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 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes

This audition choir will be offered to females in grades 9-12 who audition and read music.

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.

Physical Education

Boys' Team Sports Teacher: Dave Akers

Yearly Course Fee:	\$135
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:	8+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	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' P.E. 6-10

Teacher: Laura Ford

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<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>none</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>8/20</i>
<i>Grade Level:</i>	<i>6-10</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd 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

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$135</i>
<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 2nd 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, Bull Dog, Helicopter, 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: Karen Schlicht

Yearly Course Fee:	\$135
Monthly Installment:	\$15
Materials Fee:	\$5
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$5)</i>	
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	no
Min/Max Students:	10/24
Grade Level:	4-7
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes

Students will participate in a variety of sports and team building games. They will focus on motor skills, agility, flexibility, strength, team cooperation and good sportsmanship. They will play favorite games as well as learn new ones from around the world.

Some of examples of the variety of games they will play are:

- dodge ball
- capture the flag
- volleyball
- basketball games
- relay races of many varieties
- kick ball

Students will also have the opportunity to work and improve on their own personal fitness journey in the form of the Presidential Fitness. This is optional with reward incentives each semester.

Preschool

Playful Learning for Tots Periods 1-4 Teacher: Susan Proffitt

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$180</i>
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$15)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	<i>no</i>
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	<i>4/10</i>
<i>Age Level:</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	<i>yes</i>

*****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 will 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** **(ONLINE AND IN-PERSON)**

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$35
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$45
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/Hrs. a wk.:</i>	4-6
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	6/14
<i>Grade Level:</i>	11-12
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	no

***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, 2nd Ed.*, (2.) *Exploring Creation with Advanced Biology, 2nd Ed. Student Notebook*, and (3.) *Kaplan Anatomy Coloring Book, 6th 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)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$40
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$40)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	3-4 hrs.
Min/Max Students:	5/18
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 nd 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

**with teacher approval*

Science

Exploring Creation with Biology

Teacher: Jen Merriman

(75-minute class)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
Monthly Installment:	\$40
Materials Fee:	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	3hrs
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	9+
Accepts 2 nd 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 earthworm, crayfish, perch, frog, and fetal pig.

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

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
<i>Monthly Installment:</i>	\$30
<i>Materials Fee:</i>	\$30
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
<i>Textbook:</i>	yes
<i>Homework/ Hrs. a wk.:</i>	2-3
<i>Min/Max Students:</i>	5/18
<i>Grade Level:</i>	8
<i>Accepts 2nd sem enrollment:</i>	yes*

This is a middle school level physical science class taught from a Christian viewpoint. (Recommended for Grade 8 – Students should either be in pre-algebra while taking this course or have finished it before this course.) 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 used for discussion of key concepts and for experiments. Students will learn how to prepare a basic lab report.

Students are required to read the assigned module and answer the “On Your Own” questions before attending class.

Homework: Students will read modules, answer “On Your Own” questions, prepare lab reports and complete study guides 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. Please note that this is not the newest Apologia edition but one that should be readily available from a source selling used books.
- Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd Ed. Solutions Manual

Other supplies needed:

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

Science

Exploring Creation with Physics

Teacher: Donna Richardson

(75-minute class)

Yearly Course Fee:	\$360
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:	5/16
Grade Level:	10+
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes*

Physics is the study of how everything in the universe interacts; it could be called the foundation for all other sciences. Albert Einstein said, "The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible. And this is the miracle of the human mind, to use its constructions, concepts, and formulas as tools to explain what one sees, feels and touches." Our Lord has created the universe in such a way that it declares His glory in many ways that our God given, miraculous, but finite minds can understand! The study of physics can add to our joy and discovery of the amazing world that God has created.

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: Mandy Newberry

Yearly Course Fee:	\$315
Monthly Installment:	\$35
Materials Fee:	\$45
<i>(if joining second semester, material fee is \$25)</i>	
Textbook:	Yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	2-4
Min/Max Students:	6/20
Grade Level:	10-12
Accepts 2 nd 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, age-appropriate, 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: 2-4 hours/week. Students will be expected to read assigned reading and complete quizzes and tests at home (online). Mrs. Newberry will grade tests, activities, and lab reports.

Materials fee covers general supplies for weekly activities.

Text: TBD – We will not be using the online text that was used previously. One hard-copy textbook will be required.

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

Science

Life Science

Teacher: Kathy Pierson

Yearly Course Fee:	\$270
Monthly Installment:	\$30
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, material fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	yes
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	1.5-2hrs
Min/Max Students:	7/17
Grade Level:	7
Accepts 2 nd 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. 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 A)

Teacher: Jen Merriman

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
Monthly Installment:	\$25
Materials Fee:	\$50
<i>(if joining second semester, fee is \$30)</i>	
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	1/2 hr.
Min/Max Students:	6/15
Grade Level:	K-2
Accepts 2 nd 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 A) Teacher: Kathy Pierson

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

Teacher: Kim Eagle

Yearly Course Fee:	\$225
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 nd 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 5th grade science: Investigating God’s World (1990 or newer editions)
- ABeka 6th 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: Various Teachers

Yearly Course Fee:	\$90
Monthly Installment:	*n/a
Materials Fee:	n/a
Textbook:	no
Homework/Hrs. a wk.:	n/a
Min/Max Students:	5/20
Grade Level:	6 th -12 th
Accepts 2 nd sem enrollment:	yes

*Tuition will be paid in one payment for the fall and spring semester. Fall semester payment will be \$40 and spring semester payment will be \$50. 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

<i>Yearly Course Fee:</i>	<i>\$90</i>
<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 2nd 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

Dave Akers

Mallory Artusio

Mallory is a joyful mom to two wonderful kids (David and Sarah). She received a Bachelor of Arts from UVA in Spanish and Government, and she currently serves as a Program Coordinator at the University. Mallory has been teaching Spanish as a private tutor for 10 years, and she has traveled to Argentina, Portugal, and Spain for study and service. Mallory enjoys teaching fitness, being outside, and creativity.

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 Associate 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 Kristin Baltes, pianist, flutist, teacher, accompanist, choir director, has been teaching private piano, flute, voice lessons in her home for over 27 years. Recently a choir director and chapel worship leader at The Covenant School, she also works as the music director /guest lecturer for Live Arts, Four Country Players, UVA, Tandem, The University of Mary Washington, 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 be a part of the ACTS faculty, coaching young performers in the art of singing music together!

Sherri Burkholder

Mrs. Burkholder and her husband, Stacey have three children (two which has graduated high school). She homeschooled for over 12 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 10 years and enjoys making physical education fun.

Kim Eagle

Kim is a wife to Todd and a mother to five awesome kids (John, Grant, Katie, Eric, and Ellie). She has a Bachelor of Science from VCU; a Master 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.

Meet the Teachers

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.

Lily Garay

Lily Garay is a homeschool graduate, having attended ACTS Co-op from 4-10th grade. With a degree in Organizational Leadership and a minor in Business Administration, Garay is passionate about merging the creative arts with the practical side of business logistics. Having worked with and mentored youth for the last 8 years, she's hoping to continue helping middle and high schoolers explore their love for the creative field, specifically in photography and videography.

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. 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!

Cara Kidd

Cara was born and raised right here in Charlottesville, Virginia. She graduated from Virginia Tech with a BS in Human Development and then went on to earn her teaching license from Mary Baldwin College. Cara taught 5th grade for 5 years in Orange County and during that time received her Masters in Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Averett University. After being a classroom teacher, she 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, Maddie and Miya. She has been a STEM teacher and has been homeschooling her kids for the last several years and wants reading, math, science and all of school to be fun, innovative and exploration oriented!

Meet the Teachers

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 sculptor who has created many public monuments, and has works in collections throughout the United States and in Europe. Noted works include the statue in the Santa Cruz, CA, monument to surfing; John the Baptist at Mission San Juan Bautista, CA; the Goddess of Democracy in San Francisco's Portsmouth Square (project leader and primary sculptor); the Crucifix and sanctuary sculptures at St. Mary Catholic Church, Fredericksburg, VA; the Victims of Communism Memorial in Washington, DC; and the tympanum sculpture over the portal of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Charlottesville, VA. 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 studied extensively in Italy. Thomas Marsh and his family reside in Orange, Virginia.

Dave Merriman

David Merriman was selected as a NC Teaching Fellow scholarship recipient in 1987. He earned a BA in Political Science Teaching Option from NC State in 1991. During his 6 years of teaching in Durham Public schools, he helped organize a school within a school for at risk students and was elected Teacher of the Year 1996 at Chewning Middle School. For the past 25 years in the business world he has trained new employees and served as a continuing education instructor for insurance licensure. David enjoys helping students see history and government through different lights; especially in the light of God's master plan.

Jennifer Merriman

Jen Merriman graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a BS in Biology. At the US EPA, she worked on the Biologically Based Dose Response Team creating mathematical models to assess risk. She later worked in immunodiagnostics for Fortron Bioscience purifying monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies to Troponin I which were used in serological heart attack test kits. Upon moving to Virginia, Mrs. Merriman worked as an auto claims adjustor for State Farm Insurance until becoming a mom. As a home educator, Mrs. Merriman has led Foundations or Essentials classes for the Classical Conversations Community of Charlottesville which includes her 2 children, Sarah Lindsay, age 17, and Hudson, age 9.

Additionally, Mrs. Merriman teaches Sunday School, leads group worship for VBS, and directs children's musicals at Effort Baptist Church in Palmyra.

In 2020, Mrs. Merriman joined the ACTS Science team teaching Biology and K-2 Science. Mrs. Merriman enjoys encountering God by studying creation with her students and sharing how her relationship with Christ has changed her life.

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 worshipping 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.

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)

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 4th year cycle. She has a passion for teaching, supporting home-school families and praying for her students.

Meet the Teachers

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.

Kathy Pierson

Kathy 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 2006. 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 & 7th 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.

Robin Rakow

Robin Rakow graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a Bachelors of Arts in English Literature and Interdisciplinary Studies, as well as a Masters in Elementary Education. Robin taught in Madison County for nearly 10 years before “retiring” to be a stay-at-home mom after the birth of her oldest daughter, Katherine. Robin ran an at-home daycare for teachers’ children for a few years until the family grew a little more with the birth of Hannah and then Abbie. She’s homeschooled since 2013 and enjoys spending time with her family (including her Math teacher hubby, Ryan), gardening, a good cup of coffee or tea, time with friends, cooking, art, writing, and serving her community.

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 high school aged children at ACTS, and two children who are college students.

Meet the Teachers

Karen Schlicht

Karen moved to Virginia a little over 6 years ago after her US Army husband was stationed here. After traveling for 22 years, living all over the country, Karen and her family settled in Virginia after her husband's retirement. Karen worked in childcare and preschool and also was Childcare Director for Post Chapel at USMA.

Karen's interest in physical education began at another co-op when she saw many kids not participating in sports (including her own children). Karen decided to create a new physical education class based upon the Presidential Fitness Program. The class was approved and has been very successful. Karen believes every student can be successful and grow in their health and fitness. She encourages children to set personal goals and helps them work toward getting stronger and faster. She encourages her students to set personal goals and not compare themselves with other peers. God created us all with different abilities. Karen finds no greater joy than to see her students surprise themselves with their own achievements.

Karen's strong Christian faith has taught her that treating others with kindness is a reflection on how to be a good Christian role model. Aside from improving fitness, Karen focuses on sportsmanship. It's not always about winning. It's also about how kids handle things that are not going their way and learning how to work as a team. She is excited to teach at ACTS!

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 this is her second year teaching French at the coop. She's also a helper in Mrs. Gritsko's Art through the Centuries class, so she knows many of you already. Miss Lisa 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.

Meet the Teachers

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.

Julie Snell

Julie Snell and her husband John have homeschooled their seven children for 21 years and have attended ACTS for most of those years. Julie holds a B.S. in Special Education (Miami U), a B.S. in Nursing (UVA), and a M.Ed. in Communication Science and Disorders (UVA). She served as a missionary in England and has worked as a special education teacher, pediatric speech-language pathologist, and pediatric RN (the latter two at UVA Hospital). Julie has also taught Sunday School for many years. She is a volunteer RN at the Charlottesville Free Clinic and works part-time for Naborforce as a companion to elderly clients. A lover of reading, Julie's favorite part of homeschooling has been reading aloud wonderful books together with her children. The Snells attend Crosslife Community Church.

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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