



9th Grade Course Descriptions

HUMANITIES

Humanities I (English 9, U.S. History, & Bible I)

Humanities I utilizes the *Omnibus* curriculum (Veritas Press), a Great Books curriculum that grounds students in their faith. The students engage in material from some of the greatest thinkers alive and analyze the ideas presented from a Biblical worldview through a variety of methods such as discussion, debate, and writing. Humanities I combines history, theology, and literature to help students grow in their appreciation of the unity of all knowledge.

Humanities I students engage in readings and discussions focused on the Modern time period (1563 - Present), with a focus on U.S. History using *Omnibus III*. Examples of material covered are *The Pilgrim's Progress*, *Foundational American Documents*, *Philemon*, *The Communist Manifesto*, *How Should We Then Live?* and *1984*.

[What is Omnibus?](#)

[Preparing for Tomorrow, Today with the Trivium](#)

SCIENCE

Biology

In Biology, we are exploring God's creation – LIFE! Through our 16-module coursework using Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Biology*, we spend the year delving into the complexity of life, first through microscopic observation of creation and then through dissection. The course is a combination of book study and laboratory experimentation. Emphasis is placed on proper lab journaling and formal scientific documentation, as well as lab safety. During the first semester, students will be introduced to biology, ecology, the chemistry of life, cell structure/function/cycle and reproduction, and genetics. Second semester emphasizes the biological classifications, with a thorough examination of each of the 3 domains and 4 kingdoms within the current system: prokaryotic organisms: including archaea and bacteria; and eukaryotic organisms: including protists, fungi, plants, and animals.

MATH

Algebra I

This course in Algebra will be using the textbook *Algebra I*, Prentice Hall Mathematics. Students will focus on several core topics, which include the following: tools of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, proportions, graphs and functions, linear equations, exponents and exponential functions, polynomial and factoring, quadratic equations, and radical and rational expressions. Lecture with note taking will be followed by class time working on assignments. Time will be spent investigating and consolidating concepts and procedures. Problem solving strategies are explicitly taught and then used to develop core concepts and solve challenging problems. The concepts developed in this class will carry on in future mathematics courses.

Geometry

This course in Geometry will be using the textbook *Geometry*, Prentice Hall Mathematics. Students will focus on several core topics, which include the following: tools of geometry, reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, area, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, surface area, and volume, circles, and transformations. Lecture with note taking will be followed by class time working on assignments. Time will be spent investigating and consolidating concepts and procedures. Problem solving strategies are explicitly taught and then used to develop core concepts and solve challenging problems. The concepts developed in this class will carry on in future mathematics courses.

Incoming freshmen will take a math readiness assessment to determine the best placement for Algebra I or Geometry. In order for 8th grade Algebra I to fulfill the high school requirements, students must have achieved an average of 85% or higher and demonstrate mastery of Algebra I concepts on the Geometry readiness test.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I

Spanish I is an introductory course designed to open the door to an understanding and appreciation of the Spanish language and the people and cultures who speak it, with a focus on instructing students with the language skills needed for Christian outreach. You will engage in a variety of activities including reading, writing, listening, and speaking in order to broaden your knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and grammar.

The Spanish I curriculum is a blend of a traditional high school Spanish curriculum with the addition of *Spanish with a Mission* resources, children's books, weekly Scripture reading, and music. The goal is to help students build not only a strong foundation in the

language, but also equip them to communicate the hope of the Gospel with the Spanish-speaking world.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Art I

Art I provides an introduction to art through a multimedia experience. Students will learn and apply the elements and principles of design to produce creative art projects that reflect their understanding of these concepts.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE

The physical education class provides students with opportunities to practice different aspects of team-oriented and individual physical activities that foster life-long fitness and good health. The students will learn and expand upon team-building skills, game strategies, fundamentals, equipment manipulation, and the rules of several physical activities.