



# VALOR<sup>TM</sup>

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CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL  
ACADEMIC CURRICULUM GUIDE  
2025 - 2026

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# 2025-2026 Elective Options

(\$) Additional Fee Required. Please note fees may not be finalized until Fall 2024.

## Semester Long Art Electives (.5 credits)

Ceramics I (\$)	Piano Lab II (Spring Only)
Drawing and Painting I (\$)	Principles of Dance (\$)
Film Production I (\$)	Studio Recording I (\$)
Graphic Design I (\$)	
Guitar I (Guitar Required)	
Intro to Music Theory	
Introduction to Podcasting (\$)	
Introduction to Theatre Arts (\$)	
Photography I (\$)	
Piano Lab I	

## Yearlong Art Electives: (1.0 credits)

All courses beyond Level I require successful completion of the previous level of instruction

Advanced Podcasting	Song Writing II (\$)
Ceramics II (\$)	Song Writing III (\$)
Ceramics III (\$)	Song Writing IV (\$)
Ceramics IV (\$)	Technical Theatre (\$)
Chamber Orchestra (Audition and Instrument Required)	Studio Recording II (\$)
Competitive Dance (Audition) (\$)	Studio Recording III (\$)
Conservatory Dance (Audition) (\$)	Intermediate Theatre (\$)
Intrmediate Dance (\$)	Performance Ensemble (\$)
Drawing & Painting II (\$)	Advanced Acting (\$)
Drawing & Painting III (\$)	Musical Theatre I (Conservatory Juniors Only) (\$)
Drawing & Painting IV (\$)	Musical Theatre II (Conservatory Seniors Only) (\$)
Film Production II (\$)	Valor Media I - Eagle Eye Media (\$)
Film Production III (\$)	Valor Media II - Eagle Eye Media (\$)
Graphic Design II (\$)	Valor Media III - Eagle Eye Media
Graphic Design III (\$)	Valor Voice (Audition Required)
Graphic Design IV (\$)	Visual Arts Junior Conservatory
Guitar II (Guitar Required)	AP Art and Design: Senior Capstone
Guitar III (Guitar Required)	Worship Band I/II (Audition Required)
Jazz Band (Audition and Instrument Required)	Worship Band III/IV
Photography II (\$)	Yearbook
Photography III (\$)	
Photography IV (\$)	
Silks (\$)	
Song Writing I (\$)	

## World Languages (Yearlong 1.0 credits)

(Additional material/equipment fees apply to yearlong world language)

<i>Chinese</i>	<i>French</i>
Chinese Novice I or Novice II	French Novice I or Novice II
Chinese Intermediate I or Intermediate II	French Intermediate I or Intermediate II
Chinese Advanced I or Advanced II	French Advanced I or Advanced II
Honors Chinese Language and Culture	DC French Language & Culture
AP Chinese Language and Culture (\$)	AP French Language & Culture
<i>Spanish</i>	<i>Latin</i>
Spanish Novice I or Novice II	Latin Novice I or Novice II
Spanish Intermediate I or Intermediate II	Latin Intermediate I or Intermediate II
Spanish Advanced I or Advanced II	Latin Advanced I
DC Spanish Language & Culture	DC Latin Language & Literature
AP Spanish Language and Culture (\$)	AP Latin (\$)

## STEM Electives (Semester and Year Long)

Biotechnology (0.5) (Science Elective) (\$)  
Intro to Engineering Design (0.5) (Science elective) (\$)  
Engineering Design II (0.5) (Science elective) (\$)  
Intro to Computer Technologies (0.5)  
Intro to Game Design (0.5)  
Robotics and Engineering (0.5) (Science elective) (\$)  
AP Computer Science A (1.0) (Science elective) (\$)  
Honors STEM Capstone (1.0) (Science elective) (\$)

## Leadership Electives (Application/Interview):

Sophomore Student Leadership  
Junior Student Leadership  
Senior Student Leadership

## Communication Electives

Public Speaking (0.5)  
Speech and Debate II (1.0)  
DC Speech and Debate III (1.0)  
DC Speech and Debate IV (1.0)

## Academic Support (Semester and Year Long)

Academic Management (\$/Semester)  
Private Tutoring (\$/Hour)  
Peer Tutoring (\$/Hour)

## Business (Semester and Year Long)

Introduction to Business (0.5)  
Personal Finance (0.5)

*The following course require Intro to Business as a prerequisite:*

Accounting and Corporate Finance (0.5) (\$)  
Entrepreneurship (0.5) (\$)  
Fundamentals of Investing (0.5) (\$)  
Marketing (1.0) (\$)  
DC Advanced Business Strategies (1.0)

# 2025-2026 Core Course Options

Please note that all students must take the following core courses in order to meet graduation requirements at Valor:

Bible (3.0 credits required) - The Life of Christ, In the Steps of Paul, Senior Bible

English (4.0 credits required) - 1 credit in each of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades

Foreign Language (2.0 credits required) - 2 credits of the same foreign language, showing progression

History (3.0 credits required) - The World & the West, United States History, Economics, Government

Math (4.0 credits required) - Including a minimum of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II/Trig, plus 1 additional credit

Science (3.0 credits required) - Biology, Chemistry and 1 additional full credit of science

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## **Bible (3.0 credits required in 9th, 10th and 12th grades)**

The Life of Christ (9th/Transfer) (1.0)

In the Steps of Paul (10th) (1.0)

In the Steps of Paul: Biblical Leadership (10th - Endorsement Only) (1.0)

Honors Humanities II (1.0) (Honors Humanities Only) (\$)

Apologetics: Defending the Faith (.5) (Elective)

DC Old Testament (0.5) (Elective)

DC New Testament (0.5) (Elective)

Biblical Greek<sup>^</sup> (0.5) (Elective)

Faith and Sport Integration (.5) (Elective)

Life to the Full (.5) (Elective)

Senior Bible (12th) (1.0)

Senior Bible: Endorsement Capstone (12th - Biblical Leadership Only) (1.0)

Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone (12th - Honors Humanities Only) (1.0)

## **English (4.0 credits required)**

English 9 (1.0)

Honors English 9 (1.0)

Honors Humanities I (1.0)

English 10 (1.0)

Honors English 10 (1.0)

Honors Humanities II (1.0)

English 11 (1.0)

AP English Language & Composition (1.0)

DC Rhetoric (1.0, Honors Humanities Track) (\$)

English Seminar: Creative Writing (12) (1.0)

English 12 (1.0)

DC English 12 (1.0) (\$)

AP English Literature & Composition (1.0) (\$)

## **History (3.0 credits required)**

The World and the West (1.0)

Honors World and the West (1.0)

Honors Humanities I (1.0)

United States History (1.0)

AP United States History (1.0) (\$)

Honors Humanities II (1.0, Honors Humanities Track)

Economics (0.5)

AP Micro/Macro-Economics (1.0) (\$)

United States Government (0.5)

DC United States Government (0.5)

Controversial America (0.5)

The "ME" Generation (0.5) (Spring Only)

DC European History (1.0)

Intro to Law (0.5)

## **Math (4.0 credits required)**

(Seek input from current teacher)

Algebra I (1.0)

Geometry (1.0) (\$)

Honors Geometry (1.0) (\$)

Algebra II/Trigonometry (1.0)

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry (1.0)

Pre-Calculus (1.0)

DC Pre-Calculus (1.0)

AP Calculus A/B (1.0) (\$)

AP Calculus B/C (1.0) (\$)

Probability and Statistics (1.0)

Calculus (1.0)

AP Statistics (1.0) (\$)

College Algebra (By Placement Only) (1.0)

DC Multivariable Calculus (1.0)

## **Science (3.0 credits required)**

Biology (1.0)

Honors Biology (1.0)

Chemistry (1.0)

Honors Chemistry (1.0)

Physics (1.0)

Honors Physics (1.0)

Anatomy and Physiology (1.0) (\$)

Marine Biology (0.5) (\$)

Biotechnology (0.5) (\$)

Forensic Science (0.5) (\$)

AP Physics 1 (1.0) (\$)

AP Physics C (1.0) (\$)

AP Computer Science (1.0) (\$)

AP Biology (1.0) (\$)

AP Chemistry (1.0) (\$)

DC Anatomy and Physiology (1.0) (\$)

Honors STEM Capstone (1.0) (\$)

Intro to Engineering Design (0.5) (\$)

Engineering Design II (0.5) (\$)

Robotics and Engineering (0.5) (\$)

For all Honors/ AP/DC Courses, please see the Academic Curriculum Guide for a full list of requirements and prerequisites.

<sup>^</sup>This course is only offered in the summer and may be subject to availability.

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# Graduation Requirements

Students may select from a vast array of course offerings based on interests, abilities, and learning styles. With eight classes per year, there are opportunities to explore a variety of elective offerings in addition to required core courses. Valor encourages ongoing dialogue between students, teachers, counselors and family members in order to align course selection with the student's higher education goals.

Valor Christian High School has established minimum graduation requirements to allow each student the opportunity to explore their giftedness whether that potential lies in academics, athletics or the arts. In order to graduate, each Valor student must complete 21 total credits, including the following:

English = 4 credits

Math = 4 credits

Science = 3 credits

Social Studies/History = 3 credits

World Language = 2 credits

Bible/Theology = 3 credits

Fine Arts = 1 credit (All Arts electives)

Ninth Grade Seminar = 1 credit

\* Note: 1 credit = 1 year; 0.5 credit = semester

\* Note: Exceptions/exemptions may be made for some of the above requirements upon family application where there is solid/logical justification. Families should speak directly with their Academic and College Counselor.

Additional Graduation requirements include:

Valor Discovery Service Hours = 25 approved service hours per enrolled year

# Programs and Course Descriptions



# Arts+Media

## Program Overview

The Valor Christian High School Arts Department is committed to reclaiming the arts for Christ, equipping students with the knowledge and inspiration required to express the Christian heart in a relevant, artistic and authentic manner. The faculty is actively doing, as well as teaching, their respective disciplines, and is able, therefore, to combine theory with professional viability, knowledge with inspiration.

## Conservatory

Valor offers specialized Arts majors in the Valor Conservatory for both performing and visual arts students. Additional information about the Arts Conservatory can be found on the [Valor Conservatory Website](#).

## Department Outcomes

1. Graduates are able to demonstrate a mastery and ownership of their craft and engage in expression outside of the classroom.
2. Graduates are able to use constructive feedback to improve their craft.
3. Graduates are leaders in the classroom and the community in their respective artistic endeavors.
4. Graduates are able to articulate their artistic purpose, specifically the “why” behind what they do.
5. Graduates understand and are able to explain their own role and contribution to the creative community.
6. Graduates are able to discuss how individual creativity is a reflection of being formed in the image of a Creative God.
7. Graduates are able to explain their talents in terms of a calling versus a career and understand how their talents can be used to further the Kingdom of God.
8. Graduates are able to present themselves and their work in an accomplished manner in interactions with others outside of the Valor Community, including but not limited to colleges and universities and professionals in their industry.

## Performing Arts Course Descriptions

### Principles of Dance

DAN 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Term: Semester

• Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This course is designed for students to discover their gifting and potential in the art of Dance, with the focus of students using their gifts for the glory of God. This course offers students a beginner level of comprehensive and practical understanding of dance technique. This course will develop their physical strength, flexibility, endurance, and coordination. Students will learn basic dance skills and develop their creative abilities through learned choreography and performance. Students will study hip-hop, ballet, and swing dancing. In class, we will discuss the terminology for each style of dance. Students will have the opportunity to perform choreography with a partner, a small group, and as a full class. This course will assist students in sequencing and memorization of taught choreography and technique.

## Intermediate Dance

DAN 230

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Term: Year

- Course Fee
- Principles of Dance or Audition with Dance Faculty

Credit: 1.0

This course offers students an intermediate level of dance technique and training of their physical strength, flexibility, endurance, and coordination. Students will use and expand upon their dance experience and develop their creative abilities through improvisation, choreography, and performance. Students have the opportunity to create themes, and stories, and choreograph with a partner, a small group, and as a class. We will dive deeper into the students' previous technical skills in the disciplines of hip-hop, ballet, jazz, and lyrical. This course will assist the dancers in bringing their concepts to life. This course will provide students with opportunities to perform in the art of dance in an end-of-the-year dance recital and in-class projects, chapel And Vespers. This will also be a unique training ground for students to prepare for Conservatory level dance. The primary focus of this class will be for students to use their gifting in the art of dance to glorify God.

## Competitive Dance

DAN 320

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Tryout for Varsity POMS (Under Arts and Athletics)

Credit: 1.0

The primary focus of this class will be for students to use their giftings in the art of dance to glorify God. This class is in partnership with Athletics as an Arts/Athletics hybrid dance program. Dancers will perform on the field and at various events around the school to demonstrate and build school spirit. Dancers/Poms will also train during the school day for competitions and recitals throughout the year. This course will meet both inside and outside of the classroom in preparation for performances. This course offers advanced dance techniques and training in physical strength, flexibility, endurance, and coordination. Students will use and expand upon their dance proficiencies and develop their creative abilities through choreography, performance, and competitions. Dancers will primarily train in contemporary and competitive pom and have the opportunity to grow in choreography and messaging. In this course, we will dive deeper into the students' previous advanced dance technical training. This course will allow dancers to learn various styles of choreography while also encouraging the development of their own creative process in preparation for competition at the local, state, and national level.

## Conservatory Dance

DAN 330

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Acceptance into the Valor Arts Conservatory
- May Dance Audition

Credit: 1.0

Conservatory Dance is one of the courses offered to students participating in the Valor Conservatory program. Through individualized and extended instruction as well as intense training in various types of dance and choreography and physical and technical training, students are prepared to master their craft and excel technically and artistically. Ballet is one of the units offered weekly to students participating in the Valor dance Conservatory program. Through individualized and extended instruction, a formal study of ballet focusing on the Cecchetti method with conditioning and choreography will prepare students to excel technically and artistically. Attention is also given to gifting and craft in light of a biblical Worldview.

## Chamber Orchestra

MUS 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Placement audition with the instructor prior to start of the school year.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This year-long course is designed to take each instrumentalist from where they are as a musician and player and nurture them to greater skill and musical understanding. Through practice and performance of orchestral and band music from a variety of musical genres, students will gain an appreciation for music and for the process of practicing and performing music at a high level. Students will learn what truth, beauty, and virtuosity mean in the field of music and the arts as a whole. Additionally, students will learn to fan the flame of their gifts that they have been given by God, and will discuss how to use those gifts to glorify Him. An audition with the instructor is required prior to enrolling.

## Valor Voice

MUS 130

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Successful audition prior to the start of the school year.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This is Valor's premier vocal group composed of singers who successfully audition prior to the start of the school year and are invited to join the group. The Valor Voice repertoire is best understood as being in the style of a capella choral, pop, and jazz. The a cappella repertoire requires its members to have a refined ear for harmonies and at least a rudimentary knowledge of rhythm and music reading. Valor Voice will perform at each major concert event, including Vespers and the Fall and Spring concert, for athletic events, and also for other public and private events. Students in this group will learn advanced pedagogy throughout the year, including theory, sight reading, vocal techniques and habits, advanced harmonies and blending, stage presence and show movement. In addition, a focus will be discussion through God's word, regarding how students can use their gifting and potential to glorify God. Auditions are held each year in May and August for prospective group members.

## Guitar I

MUS 141

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Students need to bring their own guitar

Credit: 0.5

This introductory course is perfect for students who are new to playing the acoustic guitar. It aims to swiftly equip them with fundamental skills, enabling them to read and play chord charts, tablature, and sheet music. By mastering these essentials, students will be able to enjoy playing a wide range of popular and worship music in no time, using their gifts and talents to glorify God.

## Guitar II

MUS 144

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Guitar I or Teacher Approval, students need to bring their own guitar

Credit: 1.0

This second level course is for students who have completed Guitar I successfully or have auditioned with sufficient guitar playing skill to warrant skipping Guitar I. Prerequisite skills include familiarity with a variety of open chords, basic note reading, basic strumming and fingerpicking skills and a working knowledge of how to read tablature. With this year-long course, basic guitar playing skills are expanded and further developed. Barre chords are further explored. Various playing styles including blues, worship, rock, jazz, and country are introduced and explored. Additional techniques are brought into play, including finger-picking, scales, bends, hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides, lead guitar lines and licks, etc. The course also covers using the roman numeral system, ear training, guitar composition, and reading tablature. Intermediate and advanced repertoire in each of these playing styles are presented and practiced during the course of the year in Quarterly Performances during class. A significant time is spent listening to and discussing music, its meaning and intent, and how/if it aligns with a Biblical worldview in any way. Students will be required to complete an assignment researching their favorite songs and analyzing their content.

## Guitar III

MUS 146

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Guitar II or Teacher Approval, students need to bring their own guitar

Credit: 1.0

This third level course is for students who have completed Guitar II successfully or have auditioned with sufficient guitar playing skill to warrant skipping Guitar I and II. Prerequisite skills include familiarity with all open and barre chords, as well as suspended, 7, m7, and maj7 chords, intermediate note and tablature reading, advanced strumming and fingerpicking skills, competence in basic chord structure, and a personal repertoire of advanced songs. With this year-long course, the student's guitar playing skills are expanded and further developed. All chords are expanded upon. Music Theory, chord theory and scales are explored at great depth and applied to the guitar. In addition to Quarterly performances in front of peers, students will choose a guitar player, artist, era or genre to research and learn songs from as a part of their independent study. Students will have increased responsibility for developing a weekly practice routine and for advancing in their skills on their own time. Students will continue to develop skills in discerning the meaning and intent of music, and how/if it aligns with a Biblical worldview in any way. Students will be required to complete an assignment researching their favorite songs and analyzing their content.

## Worship Band I

MUS 150

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Audition and interview with the instructor prior to enrolling

Credit: 1.0

The Worship Band (150/250) course is designed to provide an opportunity for students with existing skills in vocal, guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and drum areas to grow musically and spiritually through rehearsal and participation in chapel worship leading. This course emphasizes musical skill development as well as building a basic worship philosophy formulation through rehearsal, performance and group discussion. Audition and/or interview with the instructor is required prior to enrolling. Given the public spiritual leadership nature of this class, a signed Worship Band Code of Conduct form is also required.

## Worship Band II

MUS 250

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Audition and/or interview with the instructor prior to enrolling

Credit: 1.0

The Worship Band (150/250) course is designed to provide an opportunity for students with existing skills in vocal, guitar, bass guitar, keyboard and drum areas to grow musically and spiritually through rehearsal and participation in chapel worship leading. This course emphasizes musical skill development as well as building a basic worship philosophy formulation through rehearsal, performance and group discussion. Audition and/or interview with the instructor is required prior to enrolling. Given the public spiritual leadership nature of this class, a signed Worship Band Code of Conduct form is also required.

## Worship Band III

MUS 350

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Audition and/or interview with the instructor prior to enrolling

Credit: 1.0

Students in the Advanced Worship Band (350/450) course will build on their experience by taking more leadership roles in working alongside the teacher and chaplain to design and lead worship sets for chapels. They will develop the ministry and musical skills expected to lead a worship program in both the church/chapel and praise concert settings as well as participate in extra worship opportunities such as Vespers and outside worship ministry opportunities.

## Worship Band IV

MUS 450

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Audition and/or interview with the instructor prior to enrolling

Credit: 1.0

Students in the Advanced Worship Band (350/450) course will build on their experience by taking more leadership roles in working alongside the teacher and chaplain to design and lead worship sets for chapels. They will develop the ministry and musical skills expected to lead a worship program in both the church/chapel and praise concert settings as well as participate in extra worship opportunities such as Vespers and outside worship ministry opportunities.

## Songwriting I

MUS 160

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- A passion for song writing
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Songwriting 1 is designed to provide an opportunity for students with the passion to create original songs. Students with existing advanced skills in the vocal, guitar, & piano are encouraged to consider this class but is not precluded to those without advanced skills in these areas. Additional discussion will be given on how students can use their arts and talents to glorify God.

## Songwriting II

MUS 261

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Songwriting I
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Song Writing II is designed to provide an opportunity for students with the continued passion to create music and to compose original songs, taking the post-first level student into a deeper plunge within the foundational units of the many facets of the craft. Refring, repetition, metaphor/simile/symbolism, paradox, rhyme schemes, and form structure will have their day in a much longer spotlight. This course also expands/builds upon the foundational concepts introduced in the beginning Song Writing I, with attention also given to gifting and craft in light of a biblical worldview. Students with existing advanced skills in songwriting are encouraged to consider this class.

## Songwriting III

MUS 360

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Songwriting II, Audition and/or interview with the instructor is required
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Songwriting 3, and 4 is designed to provide an opportunity for students with the continued passion to create music and to compose original songs. Attention is also given to gifting and craft in light of a biblical worldview. Students with existing advanced skills in songwriting are encouraged to consider this class.

## Song Writing IV

MUS 460

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Songwriting III
- Audition and/or interview with the instructor
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Songwriting 3, and 4 is designed to provide an opportunity for students with the continued passion to create music and to compose original songs. Attention is also given to gifting and craft in light of a biblical worldview. Students with existing advanced skills in songwriting are encouraged to consider this class.

## Piano Lab I

MUS 181

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

Piano Lab I is for students with little or no knowledge of music or how to play the piano. It is a lab class, with sixteen student keyboard stations connected to the teacher's keyboard through headsets and microphones. The basic building blocks for reading music and playing the piano are taught in a fun, interactive environment where each student can learn and progress at their own pace. Group instruction is supplemented with individual instruction, so each student's unique needs are met. The goal of Piano Lab is to develop pianists with an ongoing desire to play and grow their musical skills and understand how their giftings and talents can be used to glorify God.



## Piano Lab II

MUS 281

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester (Spring Only)

- Piano Lab I or instructor approval

Credit: .5

Piano Lab 2 is for students with prior knowledge and training of the piano either through Piano Lab 1 or via outside private lessons (must have teacher approval to join class.) It is a lab class, with sixteen student keyboard stations connected to the teacher's keyboard through headsets and microphones. The building blocks for reading music and playing the piano are taught in a fun, interactive environment where each student can learn and progress at their own pace. Due to the nature of differing skill sets in this class, each student is working on a separate piece of their choosing. There are playing tests throughout the semester. Students will agree to prepare an entire piece or a section of their piece for the playing test based on the difficulty of the song and skill level of student. Group instruction is supplemented with individual instruction so each student's unique needs are met. The goal of Piano Lab is to develop pianists with an ongoing desire to play and grow their musical skills and understand how their giftings and talents can be used to glorify God.

## Introduction to Music Business

MUS 185

Grade: 10-12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

Introduction to Music Business is an important class for students pursuing Music Industry-related tracks (Artist Development, Songwriting, Production, Performance, Audio Engineering, and Musical Theater). Typically only offered in college, students will learn the basics of industry-related themes in terms of commerce, publishing, copyright/admin., royalties, song infringement laws, streaming & distribution infrastructure, and other cutting-edge aspects of pursuing this as a career. The course will further Valor's pursuits in college preparatory relevance, giving these hopefuls a rare advantage, not to mention the potential career opportunities that could surface. Students will also have the opportunity to discover

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Introduction to Music Theory

MUS 245

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

A fundamental understanding of music theory is the gateway to future success for all musicians. This is true for every area of musical artistry, whether it be a vocal or instrumental performer, songwriter, band member, worship leader, musical theater performer, or studio recording artist. Students will also have the opportunity to explore music and musical theory from a Biblical Worldview. Get a competitive advantage by learning how to read music notation, understand rhythms, recognize key signatures, become familiar with various chord progressions, and even learn how to write music correctly. While this class is open to all Valor students without prerequisites, it is especially geared towards students who intend to make music an important part of their education, lifestyles, and careers.

## Jazz Combo

MUS 270

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Successful audition with the instructor

Credit: 1.0

This year-long course will explore instrumental jazz improvisation and ensemble techniques including blues, swing, Latin and funk styles. Through ensemble rehearsal, individual practice, solo transcription and a variety of performance opportunities, students will gain understanding and appreciation for this great art form, as well as how their own abilities can be used to glorify God. The Jazz Combo is open to students with an ability to read music and play their instrument at a basic level of competency. Audition and/or interview with the instructor is required prior to enrolling.

## Studio Recording I

STU 120

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- A passionate interest in music production
- [Course Fee](#)

Credit: 0.5

Studio Recording 1 is to provide students with the basic audio engineering and computer recording background necessary to allow the student to begin using computers as a recording medium for music and other audio material. The course is a mixture of classroom lecture and "hands-on" training that culminating in several actual recording projects, with additional emphasis on helping students understand how their giftings& talents can be used to glorify God.

## Studio Recording II

STU 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Studio Recording I
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This course is designed as a continuation of Studio Recording I. The students will develop more advanced audio engineering and computer recording skills such as material composition, plug-in use, equalization, editing and mastering for music media applications. The course is a mixture of classroom lecture and "hands-on" practice, culminating in several actual recording projects. Attention is also paid to helping students understand how their giftings and talents can be used to glorify God.

## Studio Recording III

STU310

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Studio Recording II
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This course is designed as a continuation of Studio Recording II. The students will continue to develop more advanced audio engineering and computer recording skills that were introduced in Studio Recording I and II. The course is a mixture of classroom lecture and "hands-on" practice, culminating in several actual recording projects, and additional emphasis on helping students understand how their giftings and talents can be used to glorify God.

## Introduction to Theatre Arts

THE 125

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester, May be repeated for credit.

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

The primary focus of this class is to build confidence and utilize each student's individual abilities and giftings to glorify God and to create a joy filled family environment within the classroom. This course offers a dynamic environment to learn about all aspects of theatre but also challenges the students to think outside the box, to build their confidence, and learn to trust each other in the process. This is a workshop course where students will be taught material through creative hands-on activities and will have the opportunity to lead activities as well. This class will focus on team building, confidence, vocal and physical awareness and control, acting methods, and creating complex characters.

## Technical Theatre Arts

THE 115

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Open to all students, Technical Theatre I is designed for all levels, including those who have enjoyed tech theatre at the production level, as well as those with little or no technical experience. All participants will have the opportunity to study technical elements of theatre and production by working through the process, from reading scripts to final production, engaging in both theory and actual design elements. This learning will be supplemented with discussions regarding how a biblical worldview impacts their work in the arts. Although there is some flexibility in the following description due to the needs of our productions and their varying nature semester to semester, throughout the first semester we will start with scenic design theory and safety concepts, then go hands-on by actually building a set for the fall show! During the second semester we will study theory and design elements of the following: lights, sound, props, makeup, costumes and fly system rigging principles. Near the end of the semester, students will get the opportunity to choose one of those areas to focus on and design a play from that perspective. There may be occasional field trips to visit and study other performing arts centers. All students will participate in or attend three theatrical productions per semester.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Technical Theatre II

THE 215

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Building on the skills obtained in the first-year class, Technical Theatre Arts II takes an advanced approach by building on essential skills and includes a more complex repertoire, placing more experienced technicians in leadership positions in class and productions – the latter is defined between the instructor and student on a case-by-case basis. All participants will have the opportunity to study technical elements of theatre by working through the process, from reading scripts to final production, engaging in both theory and actual design elements, supplemented by discussions around the application of a biblical worldview. Although there is some flexibility in the following description due to the needs of our productions and their varying nature semester to semester, throughout the first semester we will start with scenic design theory and safety concepts, then go hands-on by actually building a set for the fall show! During the second semester we will study theory and design elements of the following: lights, sound, props, makeup, costumes and fly system rigging principles. Near the end of the semester, students will get the opportunity to choose one of those areas to focus on and design a play from that perspective. There may be occasional field trips to visit and study other performing arts centers. All students will participate in or attend three theatrical productions per semester. Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Intermediate Theatre

THE 230

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

The primary focus of this class is to build on information learned in Intro to Theatre and utilize each student's individual abilities and giftings to glorify God. This course offers a dynamic environment to learn about all aspects of theatre including theatre history, play readings from different historical periods, improv, performance work, and an introduction to technical theatre including Scenic Design, Costume Design, Lighting Design, and Sound Design. This course will challenge the students to think outside the box, build their confidence, and the ability to explore different genres and time periods of plays. This is a workshop course where students will be taught material through creative hands-on activities and performances, and students will have the opportunity to lead activities as well. This class will focus on improv techniques, play-reading, script analysis, technical design, and performance elements.

## Advanced Acting

THE 330

Grade: 10,11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Intro to Theatre
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This class allows students who have studied the theatre craft in their freshman and sophomore years to take an in-depth dive into advanced acting techniques. The foundational processes of Meisner, Stanislavski, Strasberg, Uda Hagan, Stella Adler, Laban, View-points, Fitzpatrick Voice Work, Impulse Training, Alexander, and Practical Aesthetics will be studied. Dialect work, script analysis and audition/call back technique will also be points of study. Students will work on these techniques via scene work, monologues, song, and group exercises. Some of these songs and monologues will be prepared to compete with at the Colorado State Thespian Convention - attendance at the convention is a requirement of the class. Conversations will also be extended regarding helping students to continue to develop their artistic identities as a reflection of the Divine Artist. Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Musical Theatre I

THE 350

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- One year of Dance, Theatre, or Vocal class and be a Conservatory student in good standing

Credit: 1.0

The primary focus of this class is for students to use their gifting in the art of Musical Theatre to glorify God and to clearly understand how God's word reinforces this calling. This course offers students advanced and integrated instruction in all aspects of American Musical Theatre. Students will be given specialized instruction in singing, dancing, and acting to become well equipped as performers. Students will prepare and present as soloists as well as members of small groups and larger ensembles. Since this is a workshop course, students will prepare material for class presentation and critique. There will also be a focus on the audition process and assembling repertoire appropriate for individual voice and character type. We will challenge the students to hone in on skills that may need extra practice and provide them with opportunities to grow as performers in these areas. Lastly and most importantly, we will incorporate bi-weekly student led devos that will explore what God's word has to say about finding truth and beauty in your art.

## Musical Theatre II

THE 360

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Acceptance into Valor Conservatory
- Musical Theatre I

Credit: 1.0

Along with Musical Theatre I, the primary focus of this class is for students to use their gifting in the art of Musical Theatre to glorify God and to clearly understand how God's word reinforces this calling. This course offers students advanced and integrated instruction in all aspects of American Musical Theatre. Students will be given specialized instruction in singing, dancing, and acting to become well equipped as performers. Students will prepare and present as soloists as well as members of small groups and larger ensembles. Since this is a workshop course, students will prepare material for class presentation and critique. There will also be a focus on the audition process and assembling repertoire appropriate for individual voice and character type. We will challenge the students to hone in on skills that may need extra practice and provide them with opportunities to grow as performers in these areas. Lastly and most importantly, we will incorporate bi-weekly student led devos that will explore what God's word has to say about finding truth and beauty in your art.

## Performance Ensemble

THE 430

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Advanced Acting
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Building on the skills obtained during the first three years of Theatre Arts, drama takes a different approach during this fourth-year course by offering an in-depth dive into advanced acting techniques in the first semester. The foundational processes of Meisner, Stanislavski, Strasberg, Uda Hagan, Stella Adler, Laban, Viewpoints, Fitzpatrick Voice Work, Impulse Training, Alexander, and Practical Aesthetics will be studied. Dialect work, script analysis and audition/call back technique will also be points of study. Student's will work on these techniques via scene work, monologues, song, and group exercises. In addition to continued advanced technique study, during the first semester, each student will be challenged to begin the process of researching, writing, and producing a comprehensive 10-minute, one-man show to be performed at the end of third quarter (mid second semester) in the One-Man Showcase. We will also prepare songs and monologues with which to compete at the Colorado State Thespian Convention - attendance is a requirement of the class. Second semester, once the One-Man Showcase is complete, the class takes a new direction as we move to film acting. Actors will collaborate with video students and continue to develop their collaborative skills in a series of film acting projects which culminates in a final large project performance. Conversations will continue to be extended regarding helping students further develop their artistic identities as reflections of the Divine Artist.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Visual Arts Course Descriptions

### Ceramics I

CER 105

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This is an introductory course that gives students an opportunity to explore three-dimensional form, and to gain skills in the medium of clay. Techniques the student will learn include use of the potter's wheel (throwing), and hand building techniques such as slab, coil work and modeling in clay. Additionally, students will gain an understanding of glazing and firing techniques. Students will participate in regular critiques of the work of peers and self in order to better understand art and their identity as an artist, especially since we were created in the image of a Creative God.

Isaiah 64:8 "We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

### Ceramics II

CER 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Ceramics I
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course offers the student an opportunity to build on the skills learned in Ceramics I. The student will continue to improve on hand building and wheel throwing techniques and exposure to armature building, decoration and glazing techniques. Students will participate in regular critiques of the work of peers and self in order to better understand art and their identity as an artist, especially one created in the image of a Creative God. Ceramic work is to be displayed in the Valor Winter Art Show.

### Ceramics III

CER 310

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Ceramics II or instructor approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course offers the students an opportunity to explore three-dimensional form, and to develop advanced skills in the medium of clay, building on Ceramics I and II. Students will continue to develop skills on the potter's wheel (throwing), and hand building techniques. Each student will be creating a self portrait project based on interviews and character traits. Additionally, students will be participating in alternative firing, glaze formulation and using their skills to give back to the community. Artwork will be placed on display and entered into multiple art shows throughout the year. Students will participate in regular critiques of the work of peers and self in order to better understand art and their identity as an artist, especially as the creation of a creative God.

## Ceramics IV

CER 410

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Ceramics III
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course offers the students an opportunity to explore three-dimensional form, and to develop advanced skills in the medium of clay, building on Ceramics I, II and III. Students will use clay and alternative materials while exploring and creating conceptual art. They will participate in alternative firing techniques and explore ways to use their skills to give back to the community. Artwork will be placed on display and entered into multiple art shows throughout the year. Regular critiques will take place involving work of peers and self in order to better understand art and their identity as an artist, especially as the creation of a creative God.

## Drawing and Painting I

DRA 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: .5

This is an introductory course to drawing and painting that focuses on helping students step into their identity as creators while enhancing their drawing and painting skills. Students will explore new techniques, materials, and surfaces as well as methods for developing original ideas. The class will encourage strong conceptual planning and practice and students will be exposed to various artists, styles, and art-making processes. Materials will be varied, subject matter will be student directed, and students will celebrate their work through display. Throughout the class, students will consider creativity in light of a biblical perspective and draw inspiration from verses and biblical themes.

## Drawing and Painting II

DRA 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Drawing and Painting I or Instructor Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Building on their prior Drawing and Painting experiences, students will dive deeper into traditional media techniques, and move toward developing their own personal style. Observational drawing will be a regular studio practice. Art history will also play a major role in the setup of projects and studio sessions. Students will participate in regular critiques of the work of famous artists, peers. Materials will include but are not limited to acrylic, pencil, and mixed-media.. Student work will range from naturalistic to highly stylized. Emphasis will also be placed on understanding creativity from a biblical perspective, as beings created in the image of a creative God, as expressed in Eph. 2:10 reads, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

## Drawing and Painting III

DRA 310

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Drawing and Painting II or Instructor Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This class picks up where Drawing and Painting II leaves off. Prior courses encourage mastery of technique, and art historical context. Students will continue to grow these skills, but there will be a new emphasis on voice and concept. Students will be challenged to create compelling work that is a reflection of how they encounter the world. We will focus on the complexity of generative work: How can we all create things that point to God's truth and beauty. Students will display their work, and will continue to push the boundaries of how they can showcase meaningful ideas. Some concepts will be developed in large scale, and with alternative materials. Projects will stretch students, and other projects will play to their strengths. Materials include: Acrylic, Charcoal, Graphite, Mixed-Media. Digital processes, using the Adobe Creative Suite, will become part of idea development and project creation. Students will be encouraged to use materials where they are exhibiting mastery of craft.

## Drawing and Painting IV

DRA 410

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Drawing and Painting III or Teacher Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course builds on prior skill development and continues the focus of level III, allowing students to create increasingly complex pieces of work, refining their voice as an artist, and utilizing a variety of materials and tools, including digital. Students will also continue to wrestle with how their art can be a reflection of the world, also pointing to God's truth and beauty.

## Graphic Design I

GRA 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Course Fee

Credit: .5

In this introductory course, students explore the foundations of graphic design through hands-on projects using Adobe Creative Cloud, including Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. They will develop essential digital skills while learning the principles of visual communication, typography, color theory, and composition. Through creative problem-solving and real-world design challenges, students gain technical proficiency and an understanding of the elements and principles of design.

Beyond software skills, students will consider the impact of design in the world and how their creativity can serve others and glorify God. Discussions, critiques, and collaborative projects help them refine their artistic abilities and build a portfolio of work that prepares them for advanced design courses and future creative opportunities.

## Graphic Design II

GRA 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Graphic Design I
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Building on the foundations of Graphic Design I, this course takes a deeper dive into the creative process, visual problem-solving, and the role of design in communicating meaningful ideas. Students refine their technical skills in Adobe Creative Cloud applications, gaining greater proficiency in digital tools while exploring more advanced concepts in typography, layout, and composition. The course challenges students to move from basic understanding to a fundamental command of visual language and design software.

In addition to digital design, students will explore 3D and tactile executions, pushing their creativity beyond the screen. They will also begin to develop their own personal style, learning how to craft work that is both technically strong and conceptually compelling. Throughout the course, students will continue to reflect on how their artistic gifts can be used to serve others and glorify God, preparing them for further studies in design and real-world creative opportunities.

## Graphic Design III

GRA 310

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Graphic Design II
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This advanced course, students refine their design skills and master industry-standard software while tackling complex, real-world-inspired projects. Through hands-on work, they develop a deeper understanding of the design process, applying advanced principles of typography, composition, and branding. By simulating client-based work, students learn to approach projects with a professional mindset, balancing creativity with strategy to produce visually compelling and purposeful designs.

A major focus of the course is collaboration and entrepreneurship—two essential skills for success in the creative industry. Students will work in team-based environments, mirroring real-world design studios where communication, adaptability, and problem-solving are crucial. They will also develop an entrepreneurial mindset, exploring how designers build brands, market their skills, and navigate the business side of the industry. Throughout the course, students will reflect on what it means to be a Christian working in design and creative industries—considering how their work serves others, how they uphold integrity in their craft, and how they can positively impact those they work with and work for.

## Graphic Design IV

GRA 410

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Graphic Design III
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Graphic Design IV is an advanced, self-directed course for students dedicated to refining their craft, developing a personal design voice, and building a professional portfolio. Building on the technical skills, conceptual thinking, and collaborative experience from previous levels, this course encourages students to explore their own creative direction while maintaining a professional design workflow.

Students will engage in independent projects, experimenting with advanced design techniques, branding, and multi-platform storytelling. Monthly check-ins with the instructor will provide guidance, feedback, and next steps, while peer presentations will foster critique and collaboration. Emphasis will be placed on creating a cohesive body of work that reflects both personal style and professional readiness. Throughout the course, students will consider how design can communicate truth, serve others, and reflect God's beauty in the world.

## Yearbook

JOU 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None

Credit: 1

Yearbook is a dynamic, hands-on course where students take on the challenge of documenting the life and spirit of Valor Christian High School. Through writing, photography, and design, students create a visually compelling and meaningful record of the school year. Along the way, they develop real-world skills in layout design, journalism, photography, and Adobe Creative Suite while learning to manage deadlines and work collaboratively as part of a professional team.

More than just a design class, Yearbook is an opportunity to serve the student body and the larger Valor community. Students take on the responsibility of capturing stories, preserving memories, and creating a book that reflects the heart of the school. The course fosters commitment, problem-solving, and teamwork—essential skills for college and future careers. Above all, students learn to use their God-given talents to create something lasting, meaningful, and impactful for their peers and school.

## Photography I

PHO105

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Course Fee
- A working digital camera with manual functions is required

Credit: .5

This is an introductory course to photography; no experience necessary. Students will be exposed to historical photographers and their work, learn camera techniques through hands-on application, take and edit photos, practice critique, and display their work. Students learn composition, light, and discuss intention in order to make great imagery with any camera as well as the technical aspects of making properly intended exposures, learning with light-painting and high-speed photography. This course is a balance of learning the technical and creating a personal vision while using the camera as an artist's tool. Throughout the class, students will consider creativity in light of a biblical perspective and draw inspiration from verses and biblical themes. \*\*A working digital camera with manual functions is required\*\* Illustration below shows a typical dial on a camera with manual functions.

## Photography II

PHO 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Photography I; A working digital camera with manual functions is required
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Students with a strong interest in art and photography and an excitement to create because we were created should apply. Photo II students are introduced to and trained with Valor's professional light studio. Students continue to learn HOW to make photographs while exploring the reasons WHY they create to begin developing their own conceptual ideas as artists. Adobe Lightroom is re-introduced in the digital lab with a heavy emphasis on image quality by using RAW image format. Students are taught the importance of redundant backup and cataloging to quickly find images. In addition to digital practices, we begin learning the art of analogue photography in the Valor Darkroom. Students will take time to discuss their work as a reflection of a Divine Artist. Photo II students have earned their way to participate in one of our popular out-of-state Photo Trips to experience culture, explore faith, and gain experience in landscape photography, environmental portraiture, and astrophotography.



## Photography III

PHO 310

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 85% or higher in Photography II and successful interview with instructor
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Photo III moves into film photography and the Valor Darkroom to continue in analogue processes and printing. This hands-on medium forces students to be decisive when shooting, precise in their processes, and encourages taking risks in their artwork. We also study historical photographers, go deeper in the light studio, and students ultimately end up creating and executing their own final project. Students use Design Thinking to build a full-class installation in our Winter Art Show. Students will take time to discuss their work as a reflection of a Divine Artist. Photo III students have the option of going on our most popular fall Oregon Coast Experience being in creation, photographing on the coast, visiting art galleries, and a classic film camera shop with optical photo lab that we have been partnered with for many years.

## Photography IV

PHO 410

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 85% or higher in Photography III and successful interview with instructor
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Photo IV is for students who are excited to have access to world class studios while building upon their foundations of practice and portfolio from previous Photo classes. This course is to be viewed as guided independent study where student expectations are to be exploring, experimenting, and refining processes largely on their own self-directed schedule. Monthly meetings with the instructor will help lay action plans and assist with next steps. Each monthly project will then be presented to our Photo III class. Students will continue reflections regarding how their art can capture the work of the Divine Creator.

## Visual Arts Junior Conservatory

VIS 310

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Acceptance into the Visual Arts Conservatory

Credit: 1

This class is designed to stretch the student who wants a creative advantage for college, career and life. Conservatory is meant to be in partnership with other arts classes a student is taking their Junior year. Junior Conservatory is a unique class setting where students, from their concentration of choice, will gather for personal guidance from instructors, unique showcase opportunities, collaborative experiences with their peers, discussion around identity as artists and influence of a biblical worldview. The goal is to create space to begin generating a meaningful body of work. By means of prompts, critiques and outside exposure from professional artists, students will begin equipping themselves to present their portfolio at a professional level. Students will leave this class with a physical and digital portfolio. Additionally, students will develop a capstone video that will create a visual narrative of their creative problem-solving skills.

## AP Art and Design: Senior Conservatory

VIS 430

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Acceptance into the Visual Arts Conservatory

Credit: 1

One of the most unique arts programs in the nation, AP Senior Arts Conservatory focuses on holistically equipping students through thoughtful and varied experiences. Students must work with unfamiliar materials to learn assemblage and wearable art. We believe that iron sharpens iron here. There is a strong emphasis on healthy collaboration to experience "1+1=3", when people join forces in a healthy way. All work is made to point to a Divine Creator. Scheduled showcases are also a part of the Conservatory experience where students learn how to talk about their work and present themselves in a public space. These experiences are woven throughout the student building a 5 piece portfolio to submit to the AP board. Students have unprecedented access to teachers/advisors, all studio spaces, and abundance of materials as they navigate the rigorous AP format. Successful completion earns a weighted GPA and college credit.

# Media Arts Course Descriptions

## Valor Media I

JOU 130

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course is designed to introduce students to journalism as an MMJ (multimedia journalist). Students will learn how to gather quality video, write compelling stories, conduct interviews, and produce short form content for various digital platforms including YouTube, Instagram, TikTok and podcasts. This class will help students gain real-world technical and creative production techniques used by today's journalists and content creators. Students will be challenged to consider a biblical worldview within the field of journalism to communicate rich, meaningful and informative stories for the Valor community and beyond. This course is an excellent choice for students interested in the fields of communication, journalism, marketing, television and film.

## Introduction to Podcasting

JOU 135

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Course Fee

Credit: .5

This course will explore the art of podcasting as a means of Christian communication. Students will learn how to develop, produce, and publish podcasts that engage with Christian themes, values, and messages. The course will cover topics such as storytelling, audio recording, and editing, marketing, and analytics. By the end of the course, students will have developed their own podcast.

## Valor Media II

JOU 230

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- A grade of at least 85% in Valor Media I
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

As a continuation of Valor Media I, this course is designed to introduce students to journalism as an MMJ (multimedia journalist). Students will learn how to gather quality video, write compelling stories, conduct interviews, and produce short form content for various digital platforms including YouTube, Instagram, TikTok and podcasts. This class will help students gain real-world technical and creative production techniques used by today's journalists and content creators. Students will be challenged to consider a biblical worldview within the field of journalism to communicate rich, meaningful and informative stories for the Valor community and beyond. This course is an excellent choice for students interested in the fields of communication, journalism, marketing, television and film.

## Advanced Podcasting

JOU 240

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Introduction to Podcasting
- Course Fee

Credit: .5

This course will explore the art of podcasting as a means of Christian communication. Students will continue learning how to develop, produce, and publish podcasts that engage with Christian themes, values, and messages. The course will cover topics such as storytelling, audio recording, and editing, marketing, and analytics. Students will develop, edit and craft the school's chapel series into a podcast.

## Valor Media III

JOU 330

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- A grade of at least 85% in Valor Media II
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

This course is for third year multimedia journalism students. this course is designed to introduce students to journalism as an MMJ (multimedia journalist). Students will learn how to gather quality video, write compelling stories, conduct interviews, and produce short form content for various digital platforms including YouTube, Instagram, TikTok and podcasts. This class will help students gain real-world technical and creative production techniques used by today's journalists and content creators. Students will be challenged to consider a biblical worldview within the field of journalism to communicate rich, meaningful and informative stories for the Valor community and beyond. This course is an excellent choice for students interested in the fields of communication, journalism, marketing, television and film.

## Film Production I

VID 125

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Course Fee

Credit: .5

Film Production I provides students with a basic understanding of the technology and techniques used behind video and filmmaking. Students explore ways in which video and movies are created to achieve a desired effect on an audience. Upon completion, students will be able to understand the basics of image composition, lighting, and editing in Adobe Premiere Pro, as well as other production skills and techniques. The power of effective storytelling through video is examined in detail, and students will engage in conversations around being a part of God's story, and their opportunity to use film to impact those around them for Christ. Film I students are invited to participate in attending a red-carpet event at the annual Denver Film Festival and the New York Film Festival. Projects include camera exercises, film analysis, and the production of a music video.

## Acting for the Camera

VID 200

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Course Fee
- Intro to Theatre or Film I

Credit: .5

This acting class will help you understand and meet this challenge! Ideal for actors and aspiring directors with fundamental training (prerequisite course: Introduction to Theatre or Film I). This course covers such units as building a professional-industry standard resume, how to work with casting directors, auditioning, acquiring a manager or agent, working with a set crew, and assembling an actor or director's reel. It will include side coaching to develop film acting skills, as well as the creation of projects that may be viewed by the public. But most importantly, this course will be a fun look into who 'lands the gig' and why!

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Film Production II

VID 220

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 80% or higher in Film Production I, completion of Valor Media I or Photography I may also be taken into account
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Building on the fundamental production skills introduced in Film Production I, Film Production II places a greater emphasis on professional techniques and utilizes each student's individual abilities and giftings to glorify God. Students will be introduced to advanced video camera systems, lighting and other types of gear used on real movie sets and corporate production settings.. We will also focus on the various jobs found on a production team. Throughout the year, students will also learn about and develop an appreciation of film history. All Film II students will be involved in video producing our weekly Chapel program as well as acting as the video crew for Valor Arts Performance Hall events throughout the year. Curriculum will also be enhanced by receiving hands-on-learning opportunities with our on-staff Video Producer by working on real world video projects with Valor. Pending event schedule, Film II students are invited to participate in field trip opportunities to the Denver Film Festival in the Fall. Projects include silent film, sound film, recreating a movie scene, documentary storytelling, compositing in After Effects, sound effects, and will culminate in the spring with a full class crewed film project!

## Film Production III

VID 320

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- A grade of at least 80% or higher in Film II
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

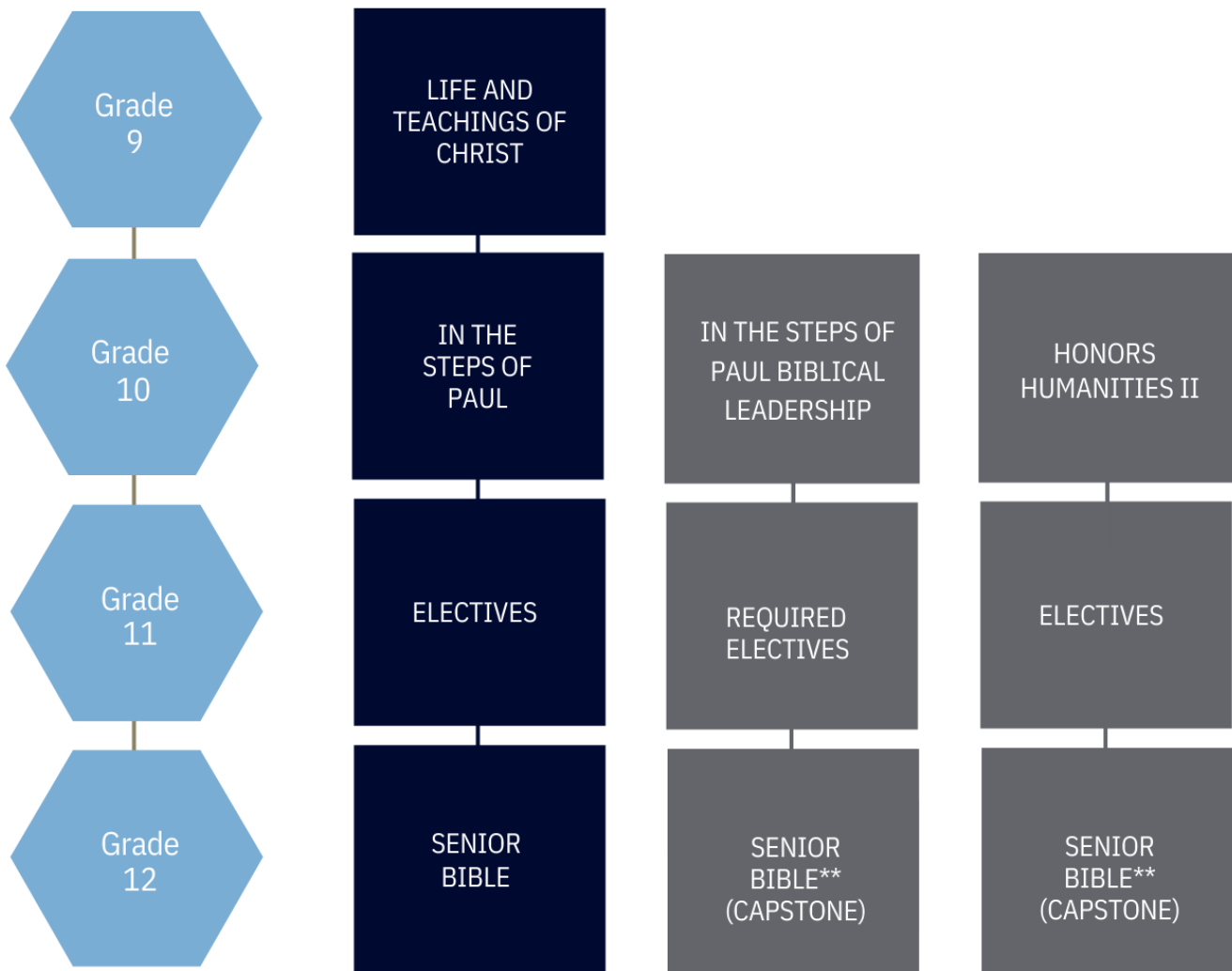
Film Production III is our advanced filmmaker class. With a strong emphasis on cinematic storytelling and on-set production, this class will build upon the production skills taught in Film Production II, and seek to strengthen and apply them. Our advanced students will grow as creators of original and meaningful films. Students will spend the year learning in-depth professional filmmaking by screenwriting, producing, casting, and directing their own short films in various categories for a public audience in state and national student film festivals. The power of effective storytelling through video is examined in detail, and students will engage in conversations around being a part of God's story, and their opportunity to use film to impact those around them for Christ. Throughout the year, the advanced students will engage with and discover cinema in a new way, develop deeper meaningful storytelling, and understand the incredible impact films have had and will continue to have on our culture.

# Bible

Department



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



### BIBLE ELECTIVES

Apologetics (0.5 credit)  
 Christian Living: Life to the Full (0.5 credit)  
 Biblical Greek (0.5 credit)\*

DC Old Testament (0.5 credit)\*  
 DC New Testament (0.5 credit)\*

*Note: All incoming students are required to take Life and Teachings of Christ. Senior Bible is required for all Seniors.  
 \*Elective may not be offered every year. \*\* Endorsement Program Specific Senior Bible Sections.*

# Bible

## Program Description

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus Christ proclaims his final command to "Go into the world and make disciples of all nations". In obedience to this Great commission, the Bible Department exists to provide an educational and relational experience, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, will help lead students to be fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, and who are prepared as leaders to transform the world for Jesus Christ. This goal will be accomplished through a combination of excellent instruction, modeling Christ likeness, and an authentic relational connection with the students.

## Department Student Outcomes

1. Graduates possess a fundamental knowledge of the grand story of the Bible, life and gospel of Jesus Christ, and Christian theology and worldview.
2. Graduates possess an understanding of the development of the Church and orthodox doctrine from Pentecost to the modern age of Christianity.
3. Graduates possess a critical knowledge of different world religions and contemporary worldviews.
4. Graduates are able to apply an understanding of the biblical view of contemporary issues in a postmodern world
5. Graduates can articulate and defend their worldview in intelligent and respectful discourse while evaluating and refuting the arguments of opposing viewpoints.

## Course Descriptions

### The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

BIB 110/116

Grade: 9, Transfer Students

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None

Credit: 1.0

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as this "one solitary life." (Dr. James Allan Francis) This course is a study of the birth, ministry, suffering, death, resurrection and exaltation of our Lord as revealed in the Gospels. Special attention is given to a detailed study of Jesus' teaching, parables, miracles, and passion history, together with an evaluation of the historical view of Jesus, his life, ministry and the world in which he lived.

### In the Steps of Paul

BIB 215

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 1.0

This course is anchored in the following truth: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name given under heaven by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). As the disciples continue to preach the gospel, the Kingdom of God spreads, as promised by Jesus, from Jerusalem to the "ends of the earth." This course will continue the story of Jesus from his resurrection to the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire until the Apostle Paul's death. The focus of this course is to show the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the growth of the early Church. The purpose of the course is to present the basic theological tenets of the Christian faith as explained by the Apostles in the book of Acts and Paul's letters to the Christians in Galatia and Thessalonica. The hope of this course is that students will own for themselves the gracious gift of God's grace and love, which he has "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5)."

## In the Steps of Paul: Biblical Leadership

BIB 230

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ
- Enrollment in the Biblical Leadership Endorsement

Credit: 1.0

This course is anchored in the following truth: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Romans 5:1-5).

This course will continue the story of Jesus from his resurrection to the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire and beyond. The focus of this course is to give a chronological account of the spread of the Gospel as told in the book of Acts and selected New Testament Epistles. The purpose of the course is to present the basic theological tenets of the Christian faith and explore the scriptural foundations while equipping students with both the understanding and the tools to engage in their own in-depth Bible study. Students in this cohorted class will engage in a deeper exploration of leadership and spiritual growth in the lives of the early church fathers, as well as in their own faith journeys. The hope of this course is that students will own for themselves the gracious gift of God's grace and love, which he has "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

## Heroes of the Faith

BIB 305

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 0.5

Heroes of the Faith is a dynamic course of biblical exploration, biographical information gathering, introspection, reflection, and ultimately, action. Students will be challenged with defining the shared qualification of "heroes" and explore what it really means to "have faith". Throughout the course of the semester, students will investigate the lives of these "Heroes" from the Old Testament, understand the convergence of these historical situations and the individuals' giftedness, research a theme connecting two or more individuals' life works, and articulate and develop an action plan to that demonstrates an understanding of what lessons they can apply from these men and women to their own lives in order to fully know what it takes to become a "hero of the faith" themselves.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Apologetics: Defending the Faith

BIB 335

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 0.5

The course title "Defending Your Faith" is taken from Peter's exhortation: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence" (1 Peter 3:15). It has been the task of Christ followers in every generation to be not only a witness to but also a defender of the biblical worldview. This defense must be done with gentleness and reverence, reflecting true godliness through the power of the Holy Spirit. Defending the Faith will help equip one to respond to the honest questions and doubts which believers and unbelievers have about the Christian faith. The course will introduce students to logic and reasoning skills, key topics in apologetics and provide the foundation for a confident defense of the Christian faith that will help encourage thinkers to believe and believers to think.

## Christian Living: Life to the Full

BIB 365

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 0.5

Exploring the daily rhythms of following Jesus, this class aims to help students experience "Life to the Full," the very into which Jesus invited us. With the hope of cultivating a more intimate and life-giving relationship with Jesus and each other, we will explore worship, thankfulness, rest, prayer, service, imitation, and celebration, among other joy-filled experiences.

## Faith and Sport Integration

BIB 385

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ
- Prior Approval from Academic and College Counselors and instructor.

Credit: 0.5

This course will examine what it means to fully integrate faith into sport. Using scripture, students will consider a biblical view of sport through the lens of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration. Through lectures, discussions, guest speakers, in class “labs” and interactions with current sport culture, students will be given the opportunity to gain the skills in order to help be influencers for Christ and promote restoration in sport. Students will consider the importance of an active and growing relationship with Jesus and further understand what it means to glorify Him through sport. Through participating in the Daily Practices, students will learn the disciplines of the faith in hopes to carry them through their sport and in daily life. Additionally, students will be prepared to lead their teams as a student chaplain for the following year after course completion. The course will culminate in a final project which will allow students to create a three-part devotional series with in-practice lab examples to potentially be used to create future school-wide spiritual integration plans.

## DC New Testament

BIB 395

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, In the Steps of Paul

Credit: 0.5

The Grand Story narrative hinges upon the idea of the Messiah coming to the Earth, bringing about God’s redemption for Israel and the whole world and restoring all nations unto Himself. The whole of the New Testament is the good news of this Messiah (Jesus of Nazareth), coming to Earth, born of a virgin, living a sinless life, dying a substitutionary death, rising from the grave and inviting all of humanity to be redeemed to the Father. In this Dual Credit course, students will take a deep dive into the whole of the Gospels, understand a greater level of depth of the Acts of the Apostles, explore all of the writings of the Apostle Paul, and unpack the writings of the other Apostles.

## DC Old Testament

BIB 405

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, In the Steps of Paul

Credit: 0.5

The Grand Story narrative begins with the God of the Universe creating perfection, to live in Harmony with the created order. When one choice by man and woman, unveils the Grand Story of Redemption that is put forth to the Nation of Israel for all the world. The whole of the Old Testament is made up of three parts: the Torah, the Nevi’im, and the Ketuvim. The Torah (the five books of Moses), reveal this narrative and how the Law is responsible to keep God’s People in covenant. The Nevi’im (books of Prophets), reveal the fore-telling and forth-telling nature of God as the world prepares for the Messiah. The Ketuvim (books of writings), reveal a vast array of God’s poetry, prose, private prayer, wisdom, national tragedy and love. In this unweighted Dual Credit course, students will explore the whole of the Old Testament, the Redemptive Hermeneutic of the Triune God, identify the genres of the text and memorize key elements in an understanding of the Shema and the Coming Messiah.

## Senior Bible

BIB 420

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year Long

- None, this required class is limited to senior students.

Credit: 1.0

Senior Bible is a dynamic final year course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection and preparation for the next chapter of life. Students will be challenged with defining and understanding the Grand Story, exploring the connection between biblical text and life application, and finally articulating their own faith. Throughout the full year, students will investigate these hermeneutical concepts throughout the Bible, understand the convergence of the Grand Story and their individual giftedness, research theological concepts and reflect on their own beliefs in light of what was learned over their years at Valor Christian High School, in order to fully know that God has a plan for their life – to know Him and make Him known to others.



## Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone

BIB 430

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the Honors Humanities Program

Grade: 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

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Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone is a dynamic culmination course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection, and preparation for the next chapter of life. It also serves as the capstone course for the Humanities endorsement program. Seniors will have the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, relationally, and academically. As Seniors approach a critical point of transition, they will deepen their understanding of what it means to form, foster, and live out one's "worldview" by exploring both gospel-based orthodoxy (theology proper) and orthopraxy (theology in practice). Through the study of hermeneutics, students will become more confident in how to humbly read, understand, and apply the biblical text across the existing barriers of language, history, and culture. By exploring both theology proper (Fall) and theology in practice (Spring), students will be able to better articulate what they believe, why they believe it, and how their beliefs affect their life and the lives of others. Significantly, students will learn how to discuss and live out their worldview with a posture like that of Christ - truth, humility, grace, and love to all. Through this holistic approach, we hope that students will see how their unique stories fit within God's grand, redemptive Story and that they desire to be a part of cultivating the Kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven."

## Senior Bible: Endorsement Capstone

BIB 431

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the Biblical Leadership Endorsement

Grade: 12

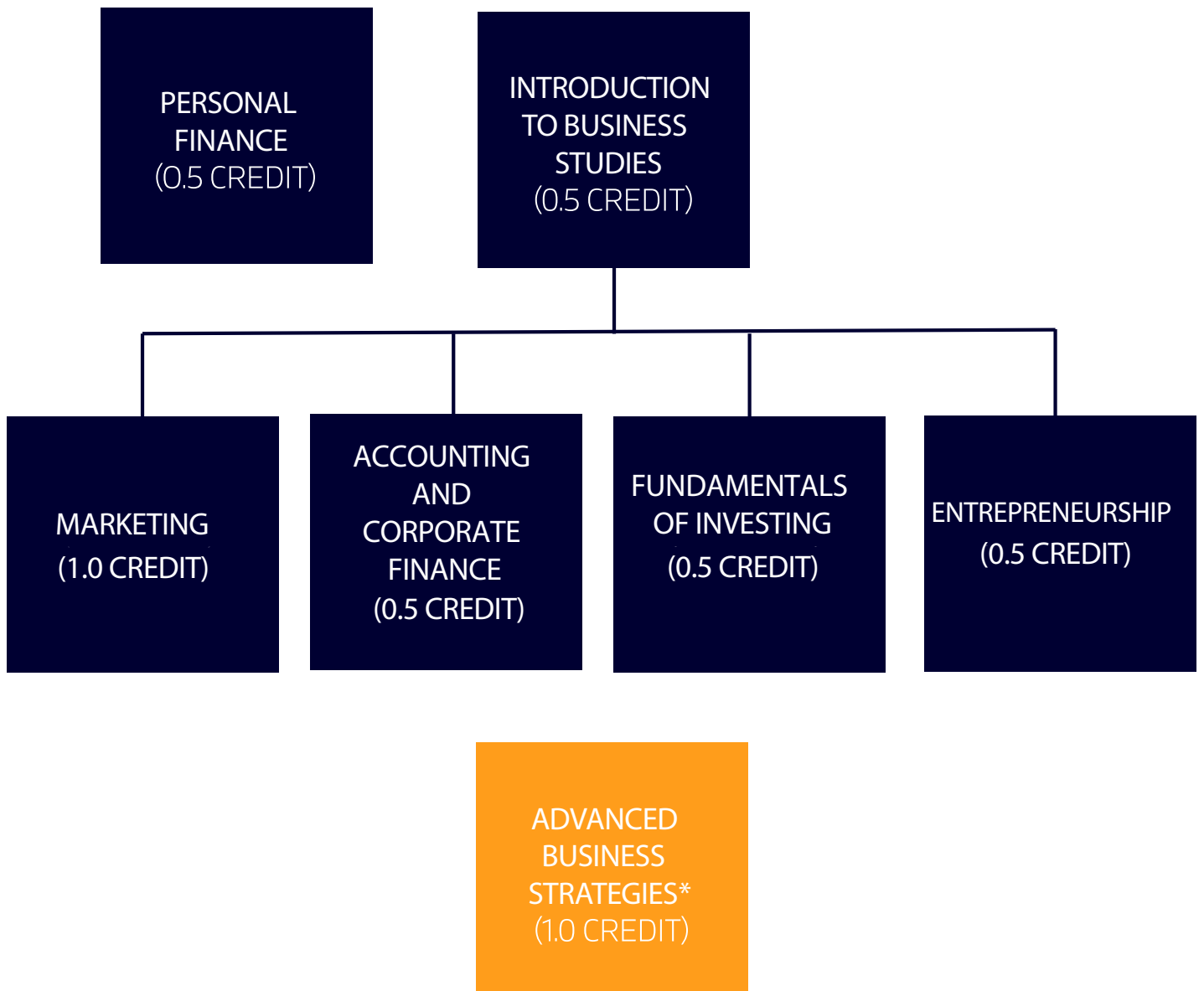
Term: Year

Credit: 1

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Senior Bible: Endorsements is a dynamic final year course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection and preparation for the next chapter of life. Students will be challenged with defining and understanding the Grand Story, exploring the connection between Biblical text and life application, and finally articulating their own faith in their Endorsement Capstone. Throughout the full year, students will become better prepared for the next stage of life (college, military, gap year), investigate hermeneutical concepts throughout the Bible, understand the convergence of the Grand Story and their individual giftedness, research theological concepts and reflect on their own beliefs in light of what was learned over their years at Valor Christian High School, in order to fully know that God has a plan for their life – to know Him and make Him known to others.

## ELECTIVES



# Business

## Program Description

The Business Department hosts a variety of relevant and rigorous business and marketing classes that will prepare a student to continue to pursue excellence in their academic and professional pursuits. Skills that students develop in the courses offered by the Business Department will ensure they possess the competence and knowledge for future university studies in Business.

## Department Outcomes

1. Graduates are able to discern ethical business behavior and can recognize ways to appropriately treat consumers, employees, creditors and society from a Christian worldview.
2. Graduates are equipped to communicate and engage with businessmen and women in an appropriate, professional manner.
3. Graduates exhibit clear, logical thinking through engaging business simulations, case studies, data analysis and the examination of business practices.
4. Graduates utilize a variety of technologies to explore, solve and communicate in the 21<sup>st</sup> century business world.
5. Graduates possess a thorough working knowledge of a Free-Market Enterprise and understand the role of the consumer when it comes to businesses decisions.
6. Graduates understand the importance of financial operations on a micro and macro level and develop a strategic working plan for saving, and investing.
7. Graduates recognize the important role of entrepreneurship in our global society, and are eager to innovate and therein further the economy by creating jobs.
8. Graduates analyze ways that businesses best meet the needs of target consumers through the development, pricing, promotion, and distribution of products.
9. Graduates are equipped to use fundamental business procedures leading to sound business practices and decision making surrounding financial reporting.

## Course Descriptions

### Introduction to Business Studies

BUS 105

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

Introduction to Business is a course designed to provide students with basic but essential knowledge of economics, business types, ethics, management, investments, role of the consumer, and career exploration. Areas of business fundamentals covered include the Free Enterprise System, entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, businesses ownership, profit motive, career preparation, and general operational concepts. This content is also covered in light of how biblical principles apply to business.

### Personal Finance

BUS 225

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

This course will help students develop guidelines for effectively managing their money, the one thing that every student must learn about as they prepare for college and life after learning. Savings, investments, financial discipline and goal setting for college planning and life, will be learned through an analytical and practical process. Credit and debt, budgeting, bargain shopping, college, costs, risk management, investing, and consumer awareness will be some essential units covered in the personal finance course. In addition, students will learn to utilize Excel and to understand how to read and understand paychecks as well as checking accounts. A Christian perspective, including being a wise steward of God's money, will be central to learning about debt, credit and money management in this course.

## Marketing

BUS 235

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Introduction to Business

Credit: 1

Marketing is a fast-paced and energetic class which prepares students for their future using many real business examples and practical applications. Marketing introduces students to marketing practices, principles, and related careers. Units of study will include The Marketing Concept, the Strategic Planning, Selling, Promotion, Product Distribution, Price Decisions, and Market Segmentations. Students will engage in many hands-on activities to demonstrate their understanding of learned concepts, as well as an understanding of how biblical principles apply in marketing.

## Entrepreneurship

BUS 305

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Introduction to Business and/or Marketing

Credit: .5

This course is designed to introduce students to the role of small business in our free enterprise system. In addition to understanding the role of entrepreneurship in our current society, students will research and understand various entrepreneurs and their characteristics. Students will understand the process of researching consumer needs and implementing ideas that meet those needs through the development of a new business, and through the development of a business plan. Students will participate in a project that includes business planning and management. Additional consideration will also be given to how biblical principles apply in entrepreneurship.

## Fundamentals of Investing

BUS 315

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Introduction to Business and/or Marketing

Credit: .5

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of investing. Students will begin by considering what money actually is. Building on this understanding, they learn about the time value of money, equity and debt instruments, and the various financial markets and investment sectors. Once students have established this basic understanding, they will take a deeper dive into particular kinds of investments, learning to analyze them from both a fundamental and technical approach, as well as making decisions in order to build a portfolio. All of this is considered within the framework of wise stewardship of financial resources according to Biblical Principles.

## Accounting and Corporate Finance

BUS 335

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Introduction to Business

Credit: .5

This course introduces the students to the fundamentals of accounting practice that underlie basic accounting procedures. The objective of the course is to learn basic accounting fundamentals leading to sound business decision-making. The course is intended for students with no previous exposure to financial accounting. The course focuses on basic accounting procedures to include: accounting cycle, journals, ledgers, internal control principles and how to apply in a business setting. This course is recommended for potential business majors in college and/or those interested in business as a career. Furthermore, the accounting content and practices will be viewed from the Christian worldview and how to apply in a meaningful manner.

## Advanced Business Strategies

BUS 350

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Introduction to Business

Credit: 1

Advanced Business Strategies is designed for the serious-minded business student interested in advanced level business concepts. This is a capstone project-based course covering the following concepts: marketing research, management, international business, college-level terminology, sports marketing, hospitality, and advanced economics. Students will be expected to complete, either individually or in a group, a written business plan after intense research and development. Business computer simulations and Harvard Business Review case studies will be utilized. Additional consideration will include further study of the application of biblical principles in business. Students enrolled in will be encouraged to compete in Valor's DECA program.

# Communication

Department



PUBLIC  
SPEAKING  
(0.5)

SPEECH AND  
DEBATE II  
(1.0)

DC SPEECH  
AND DEBATE  
III  
(1.0)

DC SPEECH  
AND DEBATE  
IV  
(1.0)

# Communication

## Program Description

The study of speech communications is essential in our increasingly global world. Effective communication is a vital skill that will enable our students to flourish in their professional lives. The purpose of studying speech and debate is to equip students to be able to think critically, reason rationally and present their ideas eloquently.

## Course Descriptions

### Public Speaking

Prerequisites: None

- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This course teaches students how to speak easily in front of others, and to learn how to both construct and perform the speech. In preparation of the speeches, students have the opportunity to consider and defend topics and issues from a biblical framework. Students give prepared speeches on a variety of topics and learn proper research, structure, style, and technique. Students also learn the principles of debate and engage in such forums. Competition in tournaments is a required part of this course.

### Speech and Debate II

COM 210

Prerequisites:

- Speech and Debate I
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course builds upon the student's basic speaking and research skills that were developed in Speech and Debate I, including opportunities to consider and discuss topics from a biblical framework. The students will master their research, writing and presentation skills within the various competitive speech events. Frequent competition in tournaments is required, during which times students also engage in times of mentorship and character formation.

### DC Speech and Debate III

COM 310

Prerequisites:

- Speech and Debate II
- Course Fee; Additional fee for concurrent college credit

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course builds upon the student's basic speaking skills that were developed in Speech and Debate I and Speech and Debate II. The students will master their research, writing and presentation skills within the various competitive speech events, and they will begin to develop projects to demonstrate these skills within the community. Students will also spend time discussing and connecting with topics and ideas from a biblical worldview. Frequent competition in tournaments is required, during which times students also engage in times of mentorship and character formation.

### DC Speech and Debate IV

COM 410

Prerequisites:

- Speech and Debate III
- Course Fee. Additional fee for concurrent college credit

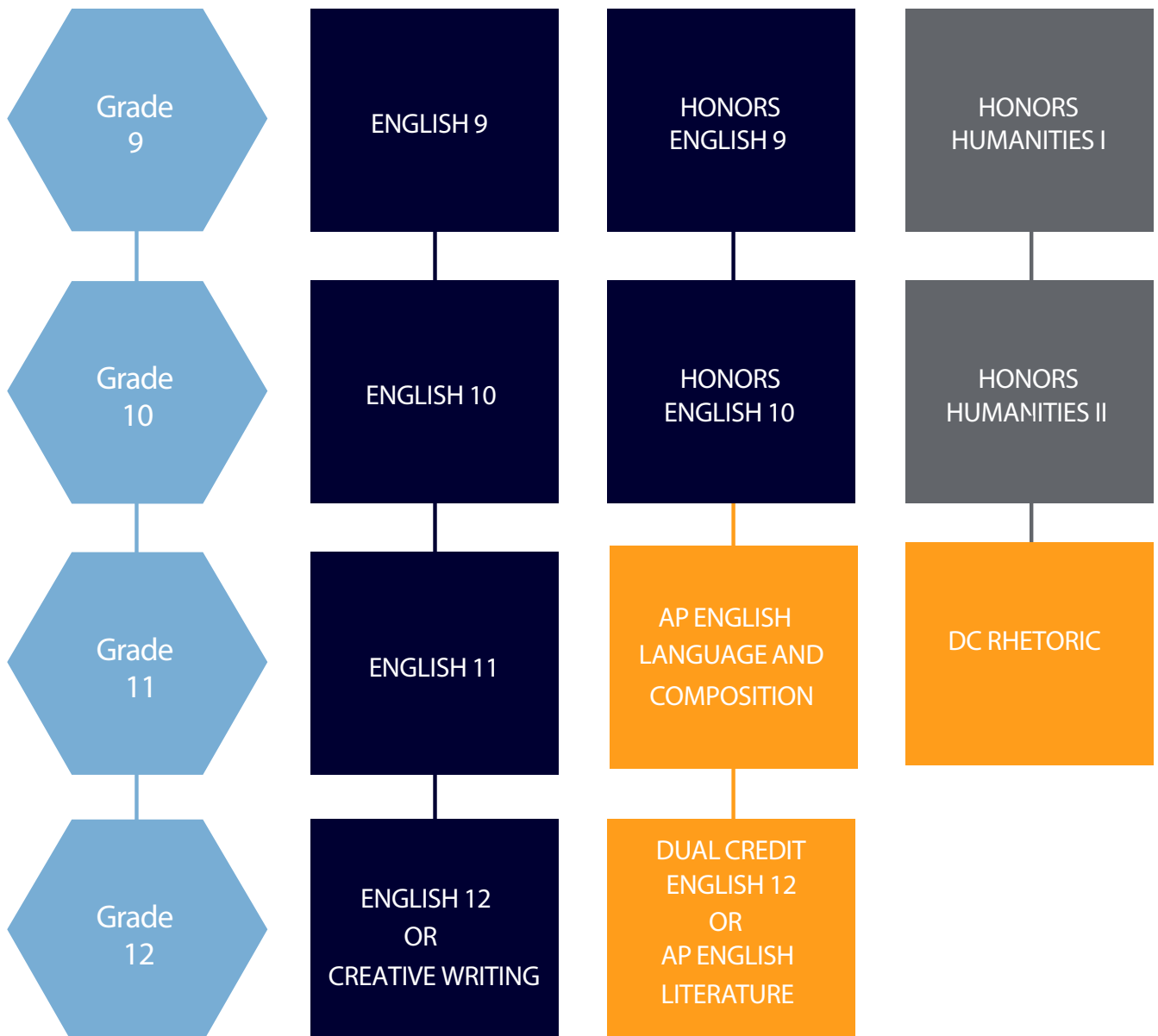
Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course builds upon the student's speaking skills that were developed in Speech and Debate III. The students will master their research, writing, and presentation skills within the various competitive speech events. Throughout the course, students will engage on various levels with topics and ideas from a biblical framework. They will begin to develop projects to demonstrate these skills within the community. Frequent competition in tournaments is required, at which times students will also engage in opportunities for mentorship and character formation.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 4 YEARS



# English

## Program Overview

The English Department will cultivate an environment which fosters intellectual curiosity, delight in learning, and a desire to become more Christ-like in thoughts and actions. This is done primarily through reading, writing, and telling stories. As students engage with worthy texts, they will participate in a timeless conversation about the great thoughts and ideas of people and their relationship with themselves, each other, and their Maker. In doing so, Valor strives to refine students' abilities to think clearly, communicate capably, interpret text accurately, but perhaps most importantly, to appreciate beauty. Further, there is a deliberate plan to create a culture of reading and encourage students to read avidly for pleasure. The writing program stresses frequency, coherence, and style, ensuring that graduates are prepared to face the diversity and volume of college writing. As well, Valor encourages students in their own authorship, to see themselves as artists and creators bearing the image of God. For stories are of utmost importance, and as they are shared, students are able to discover what it is to be human and what it means to truly live.

## Department Outcomes

### Language:

1. Graduates possess a thorough working knowledge of the conventions, grammar, vocabulary, and literary devices of the English language.

### Writing:

2. Graduates are persistent writers who construct clear sentences that serve fitting purposes within coherent paragraphs for essays which strategically advance a rhetorical and artistic purpose.
3. Graduates express their individual voice as authors as they move from argumentative to creative writing.

### Reading:

4. Graduates are regular, active, and thoughtful readers who approach each text with an understanding of genre, purpose, style, and worldview.

### Speaking Up:

5. Graduates are eager discussion participants who clearly and thoughtfully articulate and support their own ideas, ask meaningful questions, and reflectively listen to the ideas of others.

### Research:

6. Graduates are discerning researchers with familiarity in both primary and secondary, both electronic and print sources—they carry the importance of academic integrity at heart and bear the conventions of MLA citation in mind.

### Biblical Worldview Integration:

7. Graduates are able to identify and discuss how biblical themes and principles reflected in selected texts contribute to a deeper understanding of the Grand Christian story or narrative.



## Course Descriptions

### English 9

ENG 110

Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None

Credit: 1

The core theme of the English 9 curriculum stems from the Bible verse Micah 6:8: “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Through this lens of scripture, students will explore how this biblical truth manifests itself in the lives of characters from works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. They will also reflect on how this calling applies to and can be lived out in their own lives. Students will memorize this verse and other verses throughout the year. As a foundational year, the English 9 curriculum seeks to grow students’ appreciation and ability in the following areas: to read well and abundantly, to think reflectively and critically, and to express themselves articulately and accurately. Students will build a foundation in grammar, vocabulary, oratory, Harkness discussions, argumentative writing, literary analysis, and research. They will also have opportunities to explore themes and ideas through creative writing. Our hope is that students will finish the year with confidence, joy, curiosity, and ownership in their learning.

### Honors English 9

ENG 120

Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Prior Approval from Academic and College Counselors

Credit: 1

The team of English 9 and English 9H teachers expects students to internalize and employ the grammar, vocabulary, punctuation, and writing process introduced. Our philosophy in regard to the volume of literature we cover is that “less is more” when less provides for depth of thought not attainable by breadth of material. We seek to grow students who read well, think well, and express themselves articulately. As such, we read almost continuously, we think, reflect, debate, and discuss what we read regularly, and we practice grammar, vocabulary, and writing weekly. With each unit, students will understand that all truth is God’s truth, and as such, where it is seamless and appropriate, Biblical passages, theodicies, apologetics, and Jesus’ teachings will be infused to complement the texts and inform discussions. Most of our work happens in the classroom, which requires students to do some preparation outside of class. In general, this advanced preparation takes the form of reading from our literature, but may include practice in grammar, vocabulary, or generating written work. Students earn grades that reflect their level of mastery for each concept; in no way is their grade dependent on, compared to, or generated based on other students’ grades. We expect students to come to class prepared to learn, and leave class better writers, thinkers, and communicators.

### English 10

ENG 210

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 9

Credit: 1

English 10 enhances and expands on the reading and writing skills established in English 9, moving toward more complex texts and greater emphasis on textual analysis. Students will refine grammatical skills and acquire knowledge of literary devices, and learn to apply them in their analysis of texts as well as their own writing. Discussions of the literature will play a significant role in developing critical thinking skills. Students will expand and develop their vocabulary base and improve written technique and style, with an emphasis on organizing multi-paragraph compositions by composing arguable thesis statements, supporting thesis statements with claim sentences, supporting claims with concrete evidence, and warranting evidence to produce sound arguments. Students will author their own creative work, exercising the God-given faculty of making and delighting in things that are beautiful and true. Students will learn MLA style guidelines and learn the revision process in both creative and formal writing. Students will engage in consistent independent reading, with regular class time provided to foster healthy reading habits.

## Honors English 10

ENG 220

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 83% or better in Honors English 9, Grade of 93% or better in English 9

Credit: 1

Honors English 10 enhances and expands on the reading and writing skills established in English 9, moving toward more complex texts and greater emphasis on textual analysis. Students will refine grammatical skills and acquire knowledge of literary devices, and learn to apply them in their analysis of texts as well as their own writing. Discussions of the literature will play a significant role in developing critical thinking skills. Students will expand and develop their vocabulary base and improve written technique and style, with an emphasis on organizing multi-paragraph compositions by composing arguable thesis statements, supporting thesis statements with claim sentences, supporting claims with concrete evidence, and warranting evidence to produce sound arguments. Students will author their own creative work, exercising the God-given faculty of making and delighting in things that are beautiful and true. Students will learn MLA style guidelines and learn the revision process in both creative and formal writing.

## English 11

ENG 310

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 10

Credit: 1

This course will continue to develop students into becoming critical thinkers, writers, and readers by improving their written, verbal, and research skills. Students will closely read great literary classics and a wide selection of non-fiction. Class discussions will explore what ideas and beliefs formed these texts, who has supported or challenged them, and how these ideas are still ingrained in our culture today. Particular attention will be paid to the mode of argumentation: in the analysis of a text, in the crafting of an essay, and in the expression of a viewpoint through debate or discussion. Students will build upon this skill by adding layers of evidence—textual analysis, personal experiences, and observations, and outside research—to provide a convincing defense for their claims. This course also involves skill development in advanced syntax and grammar. Students will develop rhetorical and literary analysis skills with a depth of logical inquiry and a greater sense of style. Special attention is given to advanced grammar, spelling, and vocabulary enrichment. These skills will prepare them for the ACT and SAT exams and the expectations for their studies at the college level. Lastly but most importantly, this class will prepare students to be discerning Christian readers who are equipped with the rhetorical skills to defend themselves and positively influence others.

## AP English Language and Composition

ENG 350

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 87% or better in Honors English 10, Grade of 93% or better in English 10
- Approval of the Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.

Credit: 1

This introductory college-level course, which complies with the guidelines stated in the AP English Course Description, has three main objectives. First, this course develops students into strong, confident writers who recognize the value of revision in their writing. This course functions as a portfolio-based writing course that requires students to write several essays through the steps of the writing process, meet regularly in peer and teacher conferences and revise and edit select essays for a final portfolio. Second, this course works to develop critical reading skills by sharpening students' awareness of the rhetorical strategies used by the author of a text. The course content will emphasize works of American literature and works of nonfiction from a variety of authors and time periods. By becoming better readers, students glean ideas that contribute to the content of their writing, sharpen critical thinking skills, and apply rhetorical strategies in their own writing. Complementary to the first two objectives, this course further prepares students for the AP English: Language and Composition exam. To practice and assess their writing and critical reading skills, students complete several timed essays and multiple-choice segments, taken directly from released AP exams. By the end of the course, students will have prepared for the exam, but more importantly, they will have developed critical reading and writing skills that they will use in college and beyond. Ultimately, this course will guide students toward examining literature and life critically through a biblical worldview and toward equipping them to inform, serve, convince, and inspire others through their writing.

## DC Rhetoric

ENG 360

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.
- Must be in the Humanities Endorsement, Course Fee

Credit: 1

This class will focus on both moral formation and a broadened understanding of virtue—through reading classical works of Rhetoric, both Greco-Roman and Christian—and also hone the student’s ability to speak (and write) well. Spanning from the Sophists of ancient Greece, through the Roman greats—Quintilian, Horace, and Cicero—to the Christian giants—Augustine and Aquinas—this course will give students a comprehensive sense of the tools and aims of classical Rhetoric while teaching them the subject’s relevance to modern communication. They will immediately apply Rhetorical concepts within the classroom, in both written and oral communication. The course will culminate with a substantial speech and companion essay that prepares Humanities students for the senior Thesis/Capstone course. In the second semester, the course will look at the contemporary use of rhetoric and read texts that display this shift. The focus here will be on how rhetoric has shifted from its ancient ideals and what ought to be fought for and retained and what can be safely adapted to a modern context. (Also listed under Humanities)

## English Seminar: Creative Writing

ENG 401

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 11
- Approval from Instructor and Academic and College Counselors.

Credit: 1

This advanced creative writing course explores the art and craft of a variety of writing formats: personal narrative, poetry, scriptwriting, the novel, and more. With a focus on incorporating a Biblical worldview and the grand story of redemption into the writing process, we will build on previously developed writing skills. Students will learn the basic structures and formatting of a wide array of writing, as well as techniques for developing compelling characters, storylines, and the skill of editing. The course also explores the role of conflict and stories in general in particular in shaping cultural conversations and influencing society through our writing. Students have the opportunity to enter writing competitions and finish this course with a portfolio of their writing.

## English 12

ENG 410

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 11

Credit: 1

Throughout the year, we will analyze characters who are broken and characters who have found redemption and live in the light. Through these stories, students will reflect on their own lives, their own hardships, and how they can find beauty from the ashes. They will wrestle with questions like, Who am I? Who are we? by reading literature in various genres including poetry, plays, novels, and non-fiction. We'll analyze how these works espouse and diverge from the biblical view of who we were made to be, striving to prepare students to move on from Valor with a stronger sense of who they are and who they want to become. This course is also designed to improve students’ written, verbal, and research skills. Students will develop literary analysis skills and a depth of logical inquiry, along with a greater sense of style. Special attention also is given to advanced grammar, oratory, and vocabulary enrichment. Ultimately, we will guide students toward examining literature and life critically through a Biblical worldview and toward equipping them to inform, serve, convince, and inspire others through their writing.

## DC English 12

ENG 430

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 11 or AP English Language and Composition
- Approval by Academic & College Counselor.

Credit: 1

As the capstone of the Valor Christian English Curriculum, this course follows the injunction in Philippians 4:8 to “think on whatever is pure, whatever is admirable...excellent or praiseworthy.” Informed by this verse, this class provides an opportunity for students to read rich, redemptive, ennobling texts and deliberately uses these texts to challenge students’ views and expectations of life. In addition to our academic goals, this course examines the way we shape our affections, how our emotions and our reason function together, and how our actions reflect our character. We will “fix our eyes” on exemplary characters and stories, hoping to learn from and be shaped by them. We will explore the problem of suffering, we will learn about what it looks like to truly love and be loved, and we will ultimately strive to become more like Christ. t.

## AP English Literature and Composition

ENG 450

Prerequisites:

- AP Language and Composition, DC Rhetoric, or English 11
- Approval of Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Grade: 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course engages students in careful reading, critical analysis, and writing about imaginative literature (prose fiction, drama, and poetry). In literature studies, students consider a work's cultural background, worldview, and message, as well as its aesthetic value and literary merits. To enhance cultural and artistic literacy, students read influential works from the Classical through the Post-Modern periods. AP English Literature and Composition prepares the student for the College Board AP test with reading comprehension and writing skills development. Composition assignments, based upon the literature, are designed to strengthen students' skills in reading, analysis, research, and writing. Oratory skills are honed through discussions, writers' workshops, and debate, as well as memorization and recitation of selected poetry and scripture. Vocabulary development and grammar proficiency are enhanced through regular review and assessments. Ongoing class devotions help students to a deeper understanding of biblical truths, hermeneutical skills, and life application. The instructor's aim in everything is to honor Christ and advance His kingdom.

## Honors Humanities I

HUM 120

Prerequisites:

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 2 [History and English]

Honors Humanities I is a rigorous course designed to give students an exposure to Western Civilization through a Biblical Worldview. It combines the stories of Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome and examines the differences and similarities between the cultures. In addition, this course provides students with a comprehensive survey of the Old Testament and an exhaustive study of the Book of Matthew. Finally, students also learn the rudiments of grammar and parts of speech, punctuation, figurative tropes and language precision in order to become better writers. By combining these elements of Ancient History, Biblical Foundations, and Literary Understanding, students emerge from this class as better thinkers, confident writers, and as individuals more informed of their faith and beliefs.

## Honors Humanities II

HUM 220

Prerequisites:

- Honors Humanities I or Instructor Recommendation

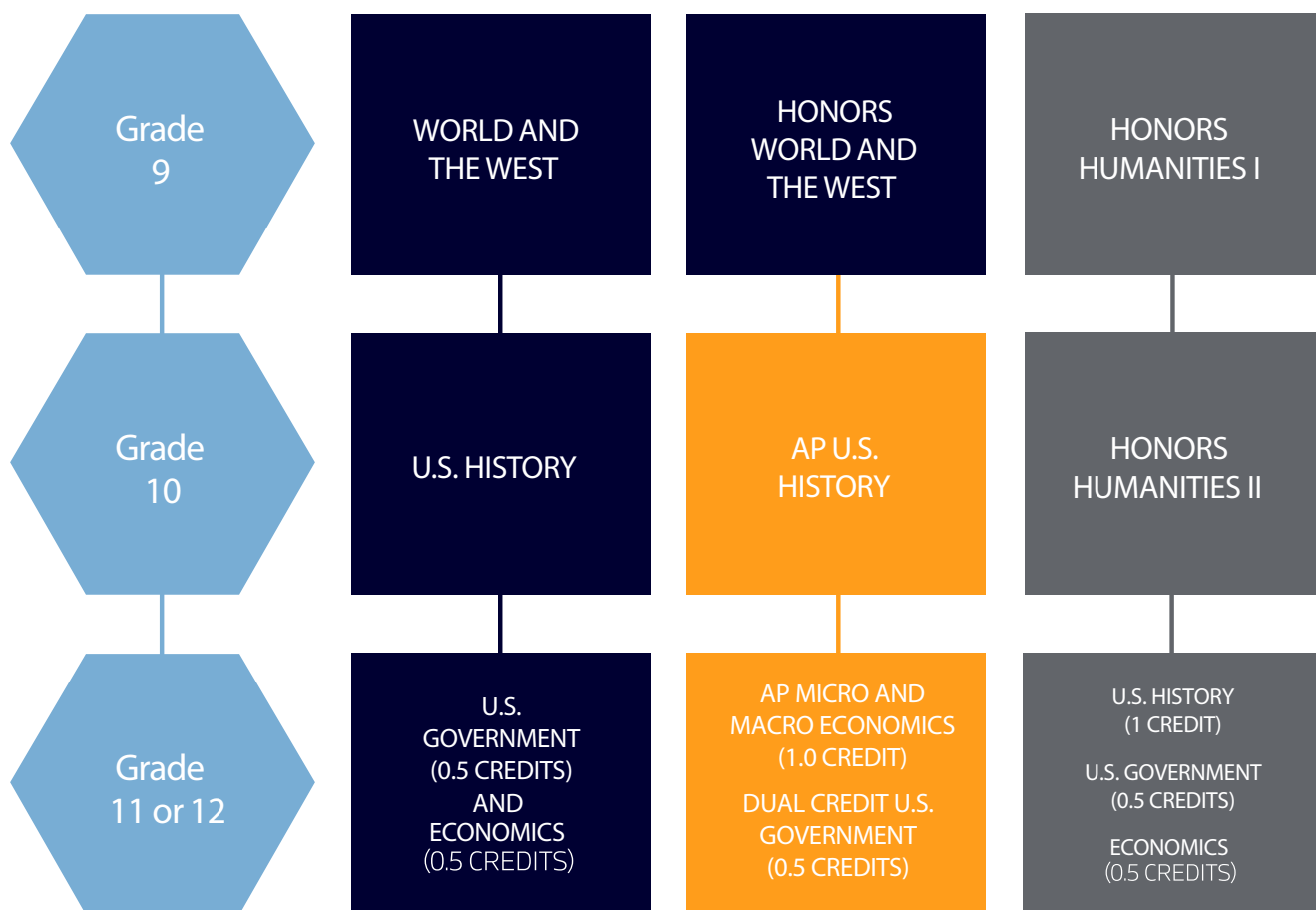
Grade: 10

Term: Year

Credit: 2 [Bible and English]

Picking up where Honors Humanities I left off, Honors Humanities II will move forward in time through the period of the early church and the epistles of Paul, to the Desert Fathers, through to the Medieval world and church, and culminate with the Protestant Reformation. Alongside church history and the history of western civilization, students will read a variety of texts from this era—philosophical treatises, theological works and the unifying creeds of the church, imaginative literature, works of history, and epic poetry. While the focus in writing will still be argumentative and persuasive in purpose, synthesis of texts and ideas will become increasingly important. Critical thinking will be honed through regular small group discussion, both Socratically led by the instructor and Harkness discussions that are entirely student led. Grammar and language instruction will continue and be reinforced. Also listed under Humanities.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



### HISTORY ELECTIVES

- Controversial America (0.5 credits)
- The "Me" Generation (0.5 credits)\*
- DC European History (1 credit)\*
- Introduction to Law (0.5 credits)

\* These courses are not offered every year.

# History

## Program Description

The Valor Christian High School History Department exists to equip our students with the ability to critically examine multiple perspectives of history, articulating how each of them would be analyzed within a biblical worldview. We seek to address this goal by providing lessons that facilitate skill building in the areas including, but not limited to identifying major events and their major players, analyzing cause and effect for each, and interpreting primary and secondary source documents.

## Department Outcomes

Christian Worldview and Application:

1. Identify and explain historical trends, while making connections and articulating comparisons with biblical trends throughout human history.
2. Critically consider how an understanding of diverse cultures and shared human history supports Christ-like engagement with those cultures.
3. Consider historical events and themes from a biblical understanding of God's continuing work in the world.

Contextual Understanding:

4. Evaluate the historical significance of key people, places, and events.
5. Identify and explain differing social opinions on historical events and contexts, with academic evidence, while acknowledging, identifying, understanding, and categorizing social bias.
6. Examine the impact of classical liberalism, its placement and contributions in history.

Communication and Presentation Skills:

7. Use verbal, written and technological skills for effective communication with peers.

Historical Research:

8. Evaluate different primary and secondary sources to analyze, argue and defend various philosophical and biblical trends seen in the Western World, to include governmental, economic, and cultural outcomes.

Synthesize Historical Concepts:

9. Create an articulate summary and argument regarding historical themes and ideas in both written and verbal form.
10. Research and understand the primacy of being historically empathetic to the era, social, economic, and political trends of the time period evaluated through presentation, papers, and other types of assessments.

## Course Descriptions

### The World and the West

HIS 110

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of ancient, medieval and modern world cultures. The World and the West gives various glimpses of the vast panorama of European civilization from the Greeks to post-war Europe. The first semester of this year-long course will focus on a study of Greek and Roman civilization, the Renaissance, Reformation, and the Enlightenment. The second semester will focus on the Industrial Revolution, the growth of nationalism and imperialism, World War I, the rise of totalitarianism, World War II and the post-war years. Each unit will contain analysis of how a Christian worldview applies to the respective eras. Primary and secondary source documents will be utilized as well.

## Honors the World and the West

HIS 120

- Prerequisites: Approval by the Academic and College Counseling team, determined through a review of admissions testing data and middle school grades.

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This college preparatory course is designed to explore and analyze major historical events and intellectual movements of Western civilization. Honors World and the West gives various glimpses into the vast panorama of Western civilization from the Greeks to post-war Europe, seeking to analyze and evaluate history through a Christian worldview. The first semester of this year-long course will focus on ancient Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Protestant Reformation, with particular attention on political and social conflicts. During the second semester, students will study the French Revolution, as well as the major conflicts of the twentieth century with an emphasis on imperialism, decolonization, and post-war Europe. Throughout the course, students will explore historiography and the sociology of revolutions, applying these concepts to contemporary movements where applicable. Student choice is emphasized in assessments to encourage each student to develop their individual historical voice. This Honors course goes beyond the regular college preparatory World and the West course by including rigorous primary source readings, independent research essays, and college-level simulations.

## United States History

HIS 210

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course explores the major events that have shaped United States history along with the role of Christian values in its development. Students learn to recognize cause and effect related to history, identify major historical turning points, and develop the ability to evaluate historical interpretations. Students will also interpret history in relation to the five ideals as established in the Declaration of Independence: equality, liberty, representation, rights, and opportunity.

## AP United States History

HIS 250

Prerequisites:

- 83% or above in Honors World and the West
- 93% in The World and the West and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This one-year course is designed to provide a comprehensive and chronological approach to the American experience from the New World beginnings to the present. Since the course is the equivalent of a college freshman level history course, the requirements are quite demanding. Considerable time must be devoted to reading the material, reviewing content, building writing and analytical skills, and interpreting documents. The course goal is to establish mastery of major trends, themes, critical concepts, and essay writing and demonstrate a proficiency of that information on a three-hour examination in May. Further emphasis is also placed on developing a student's historical understanding in light of a biblical worldview.

## United States Government

HIS 305

Prerequisites:

- World and the West OR Honors World and the West
- United States History OR AP United States History

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the American story, focusing on the purposes of, functions of and challenges faced by our domestic governing bodies. The Valor U.S. Government course equips students with a utilitarian body of knowledge intended to inspire their generation to take a more active role in both local and national politics and encourages a deeper respect for and understanding of the issues which divide and unite our society. Further, students are given opportunities to consider how a biblical worldview influences civic behavior. Emphasis will also be placed on improvement of writing skills, oral presentation skills, and technology skills.

## Economics

HIS 315

Prerequisites:

- World and the West OR Honors World and the West
- United States History or AP United States History

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. The Valor economics course equips students with a utilitarian body of knowledge intended to inspire the next generation to take sincere ownership over their choices and resources, and encourages deeper respect for and understanding of the issues which divide and unite our society, as well as how biblical themes and principles apply to an economic understanding. Emphasis will also be placed on the improvement of writing skills, oral presentation skills, and technology skills.

## Controversial America

HIS 325

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This college preparatory course is offered as an elective option within the history department. Students will explore the basics of the 1960s, as well as complete an in-depth study of the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and the cultural and political traditions in the United States and around the world. This course will focus on events and ideas that shaped the outlook of the American populous during the 1960s and will offer the climate to parallel those thoughts to the America that we know today. Emphasis will be placed on the war in Vietnam, political assassinations, civil rights, generational conflict and the "counterculture", the women's rights movement, and the rise for the "new right" in American politics. Further, students will have the opportunity to explore how the events of this period aligned with or were counter to biblical principles. The course will combine knowledge gained through readings, lectures, and film.

## The "ME" Generation: The 1970s and 1980s in America

HIS 335

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This college preparatory course is offered as an elective option within the history department. Students will explore the basics of the 1970's and 1980's, as well as the complete in-depth study of ego-centric societal desires. Emphasis will be placed on the impact the "Me" generation has on today's politics, economy, family structure, and how an individual relates to the Lord. Sample topics for the course include, the continuing Cold War, political corruption, War in the Middle East, popular culture, America's "War on Drugs", "yuppies" vs "hippies", and the nuclear arms race. The course will combine knowledge gained through readings, some lecture, video series and articles. Readings will include, but are not limited to, William J. Bennett's "America the Last Best Hope, Vol II".

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## DC United States Government and Politics

HIS 355

Prerequisites:

- Approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This college course is designed to deepen an understanding of the American story while equipping students with advanced academic skills in the fields of writing, analysis and synthesis. DC U.S. Government provides a detailed examination of the American systems of government, ranging from municipal to federal. Further, students are given opportunities to consider how a biblical worldview influences civic behavior. This semester-long course will focus on political philosophies, socialization, the structure and functioning of our federal government, historical interpretations of the Constitution. Each unit will be illustrated with primary sources and supplementary secondary sources. Emphasis will be placed on equipping the student with tools necessary both to exceed the standards of a college-level government class as well as developing necessary skills as required by future professors/employers.



## AP Microeconomics

HIS 365

Prerequisites:

- Approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- 73% or higher in AP Macroeconomics

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester (Spring Only)

Credit: .5

This AP college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. This course will cover how the individual interacts within the economy as with a semester dedicated to the topic. Time will also be dedicated to understanding what biblical themes are applicable in the study of microeconomics. The course will give the student a thorough understanding of decision making both on the individual side, as well as on the producer side, within economic systems. This part of the course will also focus on the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equality within the economy.

## AP Macroeconomics

HIS 375

Prerequisites:

- Approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester (Fall Only)

Credit: .5

This AP college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. This course will cover how economic systems interact with the economy as a whole as a semester dedicated to the topic. Macroeconomics will give the student a thorough understanding of economics that apply to economic systems. This part of the course will focus on national income, price-level determination, economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. This course promotes the understanding of aggregate economic activity; the utilization of resources within and across countries; and the critical evaluation of determinants of economic progress and economic decisions made by policymakers, as well as key biblical themes and ideas.

## DC European History

HIS 380

Prerequisites:

- Approval of the Academic & College Counselor.

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This course familiarizes students with European development from 1450 to the present. This college-level course explores historical events and movements through intellectual and cultural, political and diplomatic, and social and economic perspectives. Students learn to analyze historical documents and express their historical understanding. In addition, students spend time considering historical applications of a biblical worldview.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Intro to Law

LAW 115

Prerequisites:

- United States History

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

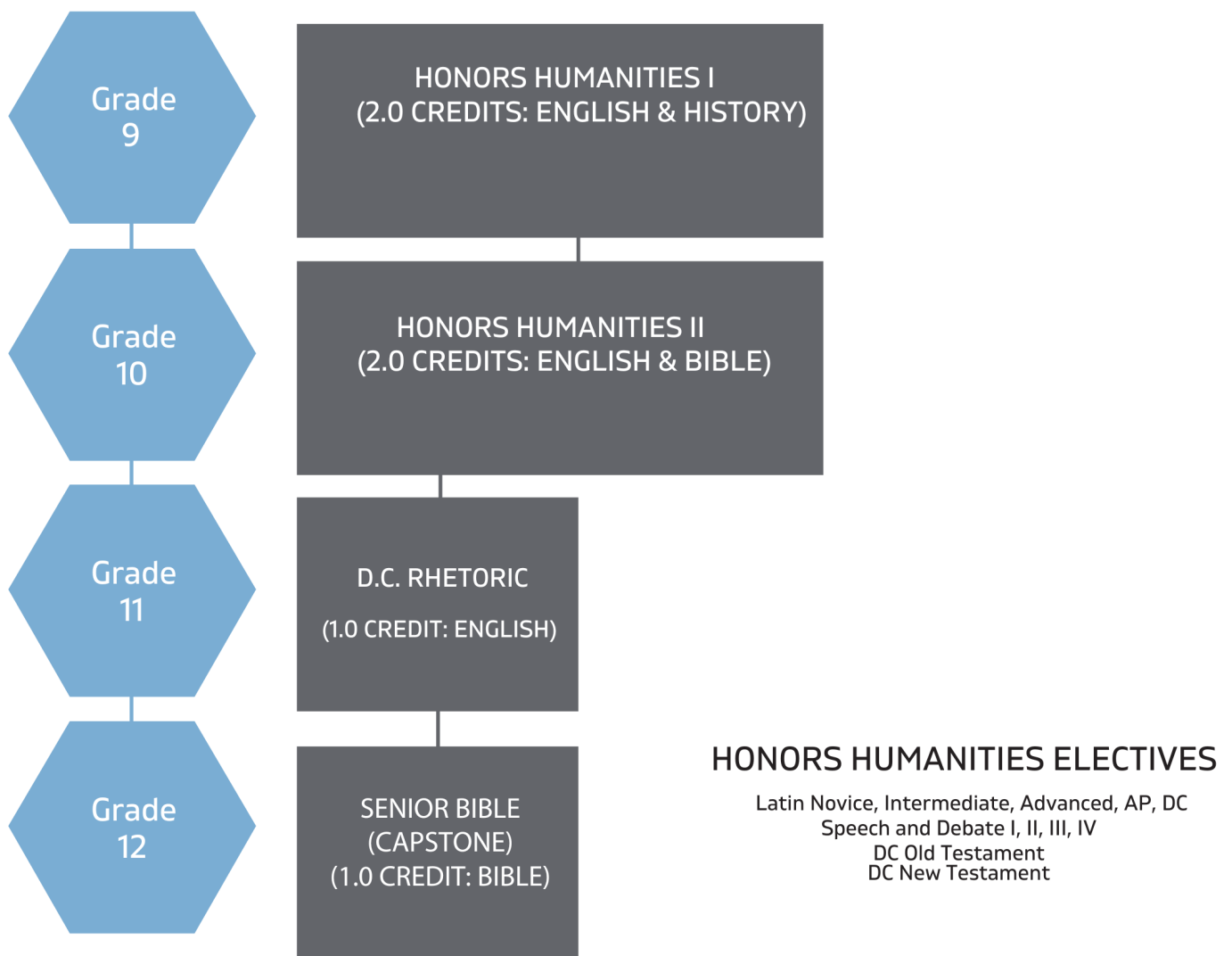
Credit: .5

This survey course is designed to introduce students to the study and practice of law. It will include both an examination of American jurisprudence as well as a study of the practical side of the law. The course will address both civil and criminal laws. Students will have the opportunity to explore how the the law aligns with or is counter to Biblical principles.

## Course Mapping

# Honors Humanities

Endorsement



\*In addition to completing the above listed courses, students enrolled in the Honors Humanities Endorsement must take the following courses to fulfill the academic requirements for graduation from Valor Christian High School:

*Life and Teachings of Christ (1.0 Credit) (Grade 9)*

*U.S. History OR AP U.S. History (1.0 Credit) (Grade 10, 11, or 12)*

*Economics (0.5 Credit) OR AP Macro/Microeconomics (1.0 Credit) (Grade 11 or 12)*

*United States Government OR D.C. United States Government (0.5 Credits) (Grade 11 or 12)*

*D.C. English 12 OR AP English Literature (1.0 Credit) (Grade 12)*

# Humanities

The Roman educator and orator Quintilian described rhetoric as “a good person speaking well.” This dual aim—good person and good communicator—is the goal of Valor’s endorsement program in Humanities. This program is designed to complete the K-8 preparation that a number of incoming students have had in the classical model and to complete their training in the Trivium with the Rhetoric stage. It is also open to incoming students interested in a classical education, either through taking coursework in the program or completing the endorsement for graduate distinction.

Please contact student’s Academic and College Counselor for more information.

## Course Descriptions

### Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone

BIB 430

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the Honors Humanities Program

Grade: 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone is a dynamic culmination course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection, and preparation for the next chapter of life. It also serves as the capstone course for the Humanities endorsement program. Seniors will have the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, relationally, and academically. As Seniors approach a critical point of transition, they will deepen their understanding of what it means to form, foster, and live out one’s “worldview” by exploring both gospel-based orthodoxy (theology proper) and orthopraxy (theology in practice). Through the study of hermeneutics, students will become more confident in how to humbly read, understand, and apply the biblical text across the existing barriers of language, history, and culture. By exploring both theology proper (Fall) and theology in practice (Spring), students will be able to better articulate what they believe, why they believe it, and how their beliefs affect their life and the lives of others. Significantly, students will learn how to discuss and live out their worldview with a posture like that of Christ - truth, humility, grace, and love to all. Through this holistic approach, we hope that students will see how their unique stories fit within God’s grand, redemptive Story and that they desire to be a part of cultivating the Kingdom “on earth as it is in heaven.”

### DC Rhetoric

ENG 360

Prerequisites:

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.
- Must be in the Humanities Endorsement, Course Fee

Grade: 11

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This class will focus on both moral formation and a broadened understanding of virtue—through reading classical works of Rhetoric, both Greco-Roman and Christian—and also hone the student’s ability to speak (and write) well. Spanning from the Sophists of ancient Greece, through the Roman greats—Quintilian, Horace, and Cicero—to the Christian giants—Augustine and Aquinas—this course will give students a comprehensive sense of the tools and aims of classical Rhetoric while teaching them the subject’s relevance to modern communication. They will immediately apply Rhetorical concepts within the classroom, in both written and oral communication. The course will culminate with a substantial speech and companion essay that prepares Humanities students for the senior Thesis/Capstone course. In the second semester, the course will look at the contemporary use of rhetoric and read texts that display this shift. The focus here will be on how rhetoric has shifted from its ancient ideals and what ought to be fought for and retained and what can be safely adapted to a modern context. (Also listed under Humanities)

## Honors Humanities I

HUM 120

Prerequisites:

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 2 [English and History]

Honors Humanities I is a rigorous course designed to give students an exposure to Western Civilization through a Biblical Worldview. It combines the stories of Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome and examines the differences and similarities between the cultures. In addition, this course provides students with a comprehensive survey of the Old Testament and an exhaustive study of the Book of Matthew. Finally, students also learn the rudiments of grammar and parts of speech, punctuation, figurative tropes and language precision in order to become better writers. By combining these elements of Ancient History, Biblical Foundations, and Literary Understanding, students emerge from this class as better thinkers, confident writers, and as individuals more informed of their faith and beliefs.

## Honors Humanities II

HUM 220

Prerequisites:

- Honors Humanities I or instructor Recommendation

Grade: 10

Term: Year

Credit: 2 [English and Bible]

Picking up where Honors Humanities I left off, Honors Humanities II will move forward in time through the period of the early church and the epistles of Paul, to the Desert Fathers, through to the Medieval world and church, and culminate with the Protestant Reformation. Alongside church history and the history of western civilization, students will read a variety of texts from this era—philosophical treatises, theological works and the unifying creeds of the church, imaginative literature, works of history, and epic poetry. While the focus in writing will still be argumentative and persuasive in purpose, synthesis of texts and ideas will become increasingly important. Critical thinking will be honed through regular small group discussion, both Socratically led by the instructor and Harkness discussions that are entirely student led. Grammar and language instruction will continue and be reinforced. Also listed under Humanities.

## Introduction to Logic

LOG 105

Prerequisites:

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.

Grade: 10-12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Intro to Logic is an introductory course in logic for students with no or limited previous exposure to the subject. In this course students will learn to formalize reasoning in symbolic languages with precisely defined meanings and precisely defined rules of inference, looking at concepts such as Terms, Statements, Syllogisms, Arguments, and Informal Fallacies. While not strictly mathematical, this course expects students to engage in processes related to mathematical reasoning.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

## Advanced Logic

LOG 205

Prerequisites:

- Approval from Academic and College Counselors.

Grade: 10-12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Advanced Logic is a continuation of Introductory Logic. In this course students will learn the symbolic language of logic. Symbolic logic allows arguments to be translated and analyzed. Students will learn how to determine the validity of propositional arguments, write formal proofs, use truth tables and truth trees, and apply these tools to arguments contained in writing and in digital logic.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

# Leadership

## Sophomore Student Leadership

LED 210

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Application and Interview

Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Sophomore Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities.

## Junior Student Leadership

LED 310

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Application and Interview

Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Junior Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities. In this junior-level class, students will continue to learn the skills required to be lead and to lead within the community.

## Senior Student Leadership

LED 410

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

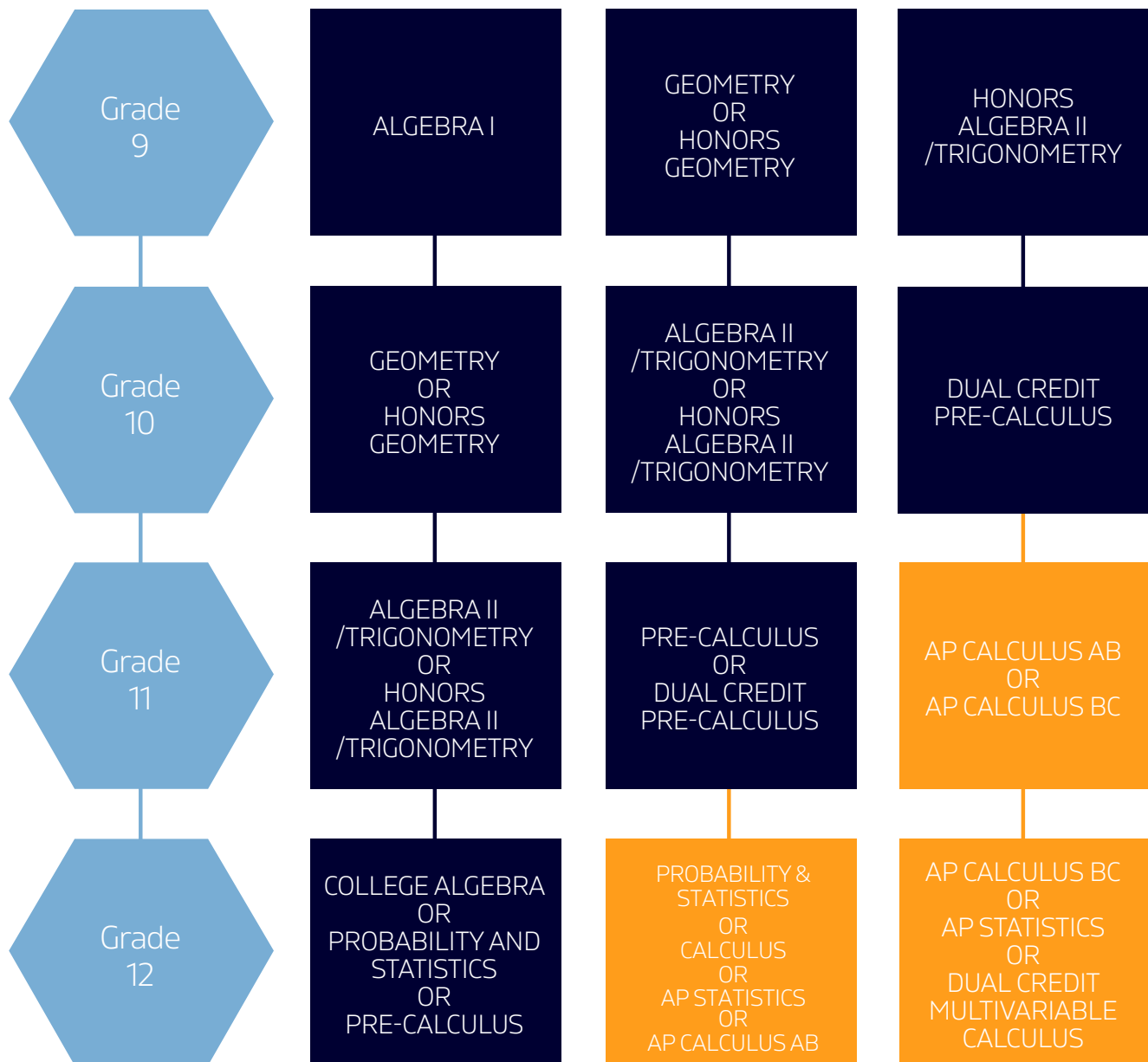
Term: Year

- Application and interview

Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Senior Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities. In this senior-level class, students will have the opportunity to take on key leadership positions within the school.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 4 YEARS



*Note: Placement testing is required for all incoming freshmen desiring a course above Algebra I.*

# Math

## Program Description

The Valor Math Program offers a differentiated mathematics instruction that engages students in interactive experiences supported by the use of manipulatives, models, textbooks, and technology. Students will move from the concrete foundational stage to the investigative stage and finally to the project-based stage of contextual application. Frequent and ongoing assessment, in a variety of forms, guides the instructional decisions made by teachers. Assessments include the opportunities for demonstrating mastery and high-level thinking.

### Department Outcomes

Number Sense: Number Systems, Quantities, Properties, and Operations

1. Graduates will recognize mathematical relationships and demonstrate procedural fluency.

Algebraic and Functional Relationships: Arithmetic/Polynomial/Rational Expressions, Equations and Inequalities, Linear/Quadratic/Exponential Functions

2. Graduates will identify, analyze, and solve functions through graphical, algebraic, verbal, and numerical representation.

Geometric Concepts: Shape, Triangles, Measurement, Dimension

3. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of geometric relationships as well as modeling logical reasoning through proofs.

Data Analysis: Statistics, Probability, Graphical Interpretation

4. Graduates will analyze and synthesize data as a means to make predictions.

Communication and Modeling: Critical Thinking

5. Graduates will exhibit clear, logical thinking through engaging math challenges, prescribing an appropriate strategy, and providing a conclusive summary.

Technology: Devices, Programs, and Calculators

6. Utilize a variety of technologies to help explore, solve, and communicate mathematical problems and solutions.

The Infinite Nature of God's Love

7. Demonstrate basic knowledge of how the Christian worldview has contributed to the study of mathematics

## Course Descriptions

### Math Lab Elective I (Algebra I)

ELE 115

Prerequisites:

- Placement will be determined based on admissions testing and middle school math performance. This is a Pass/Fail Course

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Algebra I Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through Algebra I. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the math lab instructor works directly with the student's Algebra I teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

## Math Lab Elective II (Geometry I)

ELE 116

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Recommendation from student's Algebra I teacher.  
This is a Pass/Fail Course

Credit: 1

Geometry Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through their Geometry course. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the instructor works directly with the student's Geometry teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

## Math Lab Elective III (Algebra II/ Trigonometry)

ELE 117

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Recommendation from student's Geometry teacher.  
This is a Pass/Fail Course

Credit: 1

Algebra II Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through Algebra II. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the instructor works directly with the student's Algebra II teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

## Algebra I

MAT 110

Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- None
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator

Credit: 1

Algebra I introduces students to the fundamentals of algebra. This course will encourage foundational understanding, procedural fluency, and analytical reasoning and aims to introduce the idea of a divine loving creator who is revealed through order and design. Topics include operations with real numbers and variable expressions, including exponential expressions, solving and graphing linear equations, inequalities, and systems, factoring polynomials, solving and graphing quadratic equations, solving rational equations, solving radical equations and simplifying expressions. Algebra I stresses a systematic approach to problem-solving while reinforcing critical thinking skills. This course will encourage analysis through real-world applications and provide students the opportunity to build the necessary reasoning and communication skills to be successful in future math courses.

## Geometry

MAT 210

Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Completion of Algebra I
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Credit: 1

Geometry applies the skills gleaned in Algebra I to study geometric figures in two and three dimensions. The course is designed to increase students' understanding of spatial relationships, mathematical analysis, and communication as well as how to use logic and reasoning to better understand and articulate biblical truths. Topics include points, lines, planes, angles and segments as applied to parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, similar figures, right triangle trigonometry, quadrilaterals, circles, areas, transformations, and proofs. This course includes writing formal proofs to develop logical reasoning skills and clear mathematical communication. Emphasis is placed on applying the basic terminology and concepts of geometry in a logical and organized manner. This course, as well as Algebra I, provides a solid foundation for success in Algebra II.



## Honors Geometry

MAT 220

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or better in Algebra I
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 Calculator.

Grade: 9, 10

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Honors Geometry covers an accelerated Geometry course expanding on many of the concepts of Algebra I as well as the introduction to the study of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This course will focus on the development of higher-level critical thinking skills through a variety of applications and projects as well as logic and reasoning skills which will be applied to examine biblical truths. Topics include points, lines, planes, angles and segments as applied to parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, similar figures, right triangle trigonometry, quadrilaterals, circles, areas, transformations, and proofs. This course includes writing formal proofs to develop logical reasoning skills and clear mathematical communication. In addition, the Honors Geometry course also introduces deductive reasoning, laws of logic, projects applying laws of logic to scripture, trigonometry--law of sines, law of cosines, as well as a more extensive coverage of the conic sections. The course includes assignments, applications, and exams at a greater depth and difficulty level to adequately prepare students for Honors Algebra II.

## Algebra II/Trigonometry

MAT 310

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Algebra I and Geometry
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI 84 Calculator.

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Algebra II & Trigonometry expands on the foundational concepts taught in Algebra I and Geometry. This course uses a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as periodic exploratory investigations to help develop critical thinking skills as well as the idea of a loving and divine creator who is revealed through order and design. Topics include polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability and statistics. In addition, this course provides numerical, algebraic, and graphical analysis using both the TI graphing calculator and spreadsheets. Emphasis is placed on written expression in the form of well-structured algebraic communication that documents a logical thought process and support for a correct response. This course provides the necessary foundation for advanced mathematical study in upper-level courses as well as a foundation for standardized test preparation.

## Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

MAT 320

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or better in Geometry or 83% or better in Honors Geometry
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 Calculator.

Grade: 9, 10, 11

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Honors Algebra II & Trigonometry covers an accelerated Algebra II & Trigonometry curriculum. This course expands the concepts of Algebra I and Geometry with a focus on higher level critical thinking skills and applications as well as the idea of a loving and divine creator who is revealed through order and design. This course maintains a high level of rigor and will present the topics covered in Algebra II including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability. In addition, this course includes an in depth study of the composition and graphs of polynomial, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as the addition of linear programming, sequences and series. This course also teaches basic spreadsheet skills through application as well as integrates programming on a graphing calculator. The course maintains a quick pace as new concepts are introduced each day and is designed to prepare students for Dual Credit Pre-Calculus.

## College Algebra

MAT 400

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II / Trigonometry and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

College Algebra expands on the topics and concepts of Algebra II with a focus on going deeper with fewer topics in an effort to secure mastery of all algebra topics. This course combines direct instruction with topical projects designed to broaden students' understanding of each concept and to reveal God's divine power through order and design. This course also utilizes mastery-based learning strategies to ensure students gain a solid foundation of basic concepts. Topics include identifying, solving and graphing algebraic functions of all forms, solving systems of equations and inequalities, mathematical modeling, polynomial manipulation, trigonometry, rational functions, conic sections, trigonometric functions, and matrices. This course is designed to prepare students for upper-level math courses. For each of the projects in this course there will be Biblical worldview integration.

## Pre-Calculus

MAT 410

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry or a 73% in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Pre-Calculus extends the concepts covered in Algebra II & Trigonometry and strengthens students' understanding of the elementary functions and mathematical reasoning. An emphasis is placed on both a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as exploratory investigation to deepen students' knowledge and to reveal God's divine power through order and design. Topics expanded on from Algebra II and Trigonometry include polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability and statistics. New topics introduced include the study of vectors, sequences and series, conic sections, and polar coordinates. Additionally, the calculus ideas of limits and slopes of curves are introduced in preparation for the study of calculus. This course is designed to prepare students for college-level math courses including calculus.

## DC Pre-Calculus

MAT 420

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Honors Algebra II/ Trigonometry or 93% in CP Algebra II/Trigonometry and teacher approval.
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Dual Credit Precalculus is a college level course that will extend on the topics covered in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry. This course covers an accelerated Precalculus curriculum with a focus on higher-level critical thinking skills and an emphasis on synthesis of concepts which highlights God's divine power through order and design. The course emphasizes application of concepts and derivation of theorems. In addition to the expansion of topics covered in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals, probability, linear programming, sequences and series, and conics. In addition, this course will also cover parametric equations, polar equations, inductive proof, and a formal introduction to calculus. The pace of DC Precalculus is very brisk with new, and often complex, material being introduced daily. The course has proven to be beneficial students' academic growth and success in AP Calculus AB and BC.

## Probability and Statistics

MAT 430

Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 73% or better in Algebra II/ Trigonometry, or completion of Pre-Calculus.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Credit: 1

Probability and Statistics expands on the probability and statistics concepts introduced in Algebra II. This course presents students with the foundational concepts and applications of probability theory and statistics as well as the ethical implications embodied in statistics through a Christian worldview lens. This course will provide students with a basic ability to collect, analyze, and interpret data through descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics include collecting data, frequency distributions and graphs, data description, measures of central tendency, measures of variation, probability and counting rules, commonly used discrete probability distributions, the normal distribution, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, comparing two populations, correlation and regression, and inference for distributions of categorical data. Emphasis will be placed on the relevance statistics plays in examining, analyzing, and solving real-world problems and is designed to prepare students for college-level probability and statistics courses.

## Calculus

MAT 500

Grade: 11-12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- 75% or higher or Teacher Recommendation in Precalculus

Credit: 1

This course expands upon the concepts taught in Precalculus in order to expose students to the foundational concepts of single variable calculus. This course emphasizes foundational knowledge and applications of calculus in order to prepare students for introductory college level Calculus. The idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God will be presented through the calculus concepts. Topics include introductions to limits, derivatives, integrals, and the applications of derivatives and integrals, with an emphasis on conceptual understanding.

## AP Statistics

MAT 510

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Completion of Probability and Statistics or Precalculus, and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

In preparation for the AP Statistics exam, this course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. The course makes use of key mathematical concepts taught in algebra with a broader emphasis on clearly defining questions to be investigated, gathering and organizing data, producing informative graphical and numerical summaries, modeling relationships, making decisions while accounting for uncertainty in the data, and clearly communicating results in the context of a study. This course will also present the ethical implications of statistics through a Christian worldview perspective. Topics include; I Exploring data: describing patterns and departures from patterns. II Sampling and experimentation: planning and conducting a study. III Anticipating patterns: exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation. IV Statistical inference: estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Students learn to synthesize their mathematics acumen with critical thinking and writing skills to create a framework for evaluating and supporting hypotheses in most disciplines.

## AP Calculus A/B

MAT 530

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 90% or higher in Algebra II or 80% or higher in Honors Algebra II.
- Grade of 80% or higher in Pre-Calculus or completion of DC Pre-Calculus and approval of the Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.
- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Calculus AB expands upon the concepts taught in Precalculus In preparation for the AP Calculus AB exam. This course emphasizes conceptual understanding as well as contextual application of single variable Calculus and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. The AP Calculus AB framework involves the following concepts: limits, derivatives, antiderivatives, and definite integrals. Central to the course is the connection of these concepts to each other as well as to practical situations. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to Calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally. A rigorous review for the AP Calculus AB exam is included. This course will prepare students for the Calculus AB exam and college level math courses.

## AP Calculus B/C

MAT 520

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Calculus 1 or AP Calculus AB and approval of the Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Calculus BC expands upon the concepts taught in DC Precalculus and AP Calculus AB In preparation for the AP Calculus BC exam. This course emphasizes conceptual understanding as well as contextual application of single variable Calculus and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. The AP Calculus BC framework involves the following foundational concepts: limits, derivatives, antiderivatives, and definite integrals. Additional topics included in AP Calculus BC are: Euler's method, advanced integration techniques, power series, and calculus applied to parametric equations, polar equations, and vectors in two dimensions. Central to the course is the connection of these concepts to each other as well as to practical situations. This course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally. This course includes a rigorous review for the AP Calculus BC examination and prepares students for college-level math courses.

## DC Multivariable Calculus

MAT 610

Prerequisites:

- Completion of AP Calculus BC and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator
- Course Fee

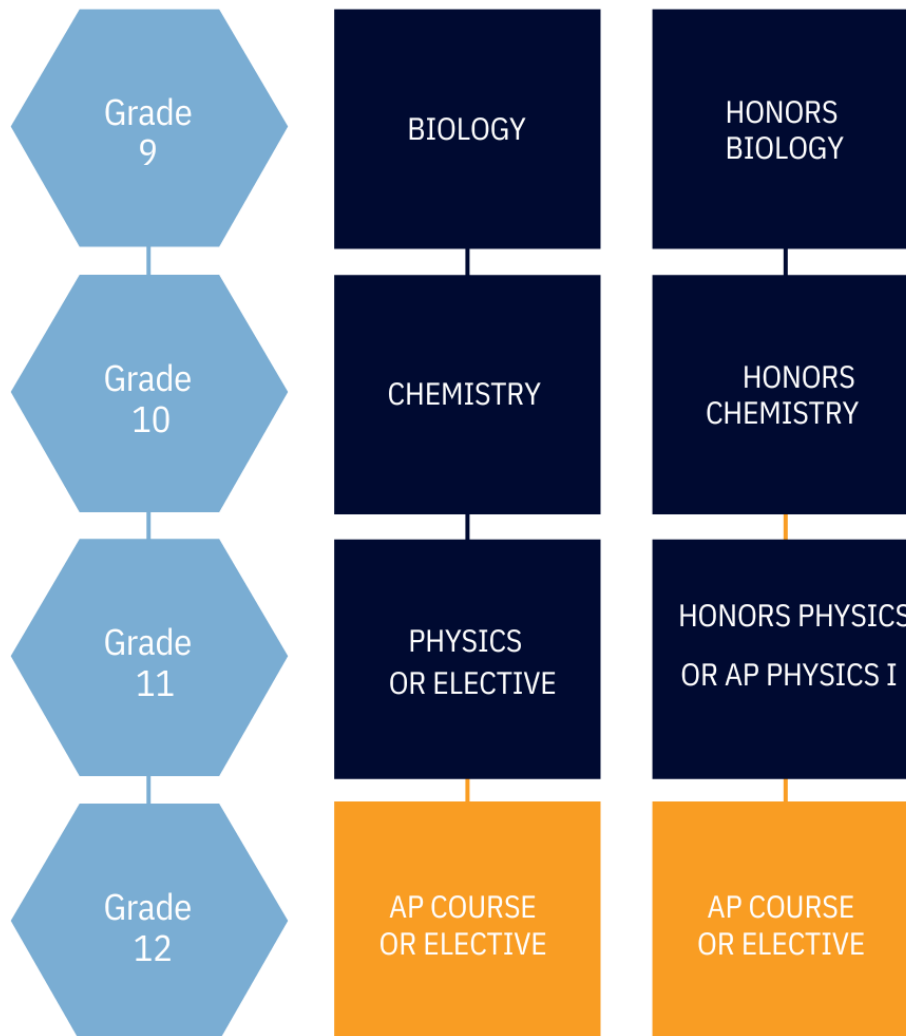
Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Dual Credit Multivariable Calculus extends the concepts covered in AP Calculus AB and BC. The course analyzes functions of two and three variables as well as use calculus to evaluate surfaces and curves in three-dimensional space. An emphasis is placed on both a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as exploratory investigation and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. Topics include vectors, vector-values functions, partial derivatives, analytic geometry, multiple integrals, and line integrals. This course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems, being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally through organized and articulate solutions to theoretical and application problems. This course will prepare students for additional college-level math courses such as linear algebra or vector calculus.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



### SCIENCE ELECTIVES

- Forensic Science (0.5 credits)
- Human Anatomy & Physiology (1 credit)
- Marine Biology (0.5 credits)
- Robotics & Engineering (0.5 credits)
- Biotechnology-Principles and Practice (0.5 credits)
- Introduction to Engineering (0.5 credits)
- Engineering Design II (0.5 credits)
- Honors STEM Capstone (1 credit) [Required for STEM Endorsees]

### AP COURSES/CONCURRENT COLLEGE CREDIT

- AP Biology (1 credit)
- AP Chemistry (1 credit)
- AP Physics 1 (1 credit)
- AP Physics C: Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism (1 credit)
- Dual Credit Human Anatomy & Physiology (1 credit)

# Science

## Program Description

The science program at Valor provides contextual knowledge and skills from which students can become scientifically literate in order to make godly, responsible decisions. Each course actively involves students in problem-solving, qualitative and quantitative analysis, hands-on minds-on learning, and verbal and written communication. Students will develop an appreciation of God's creation and use science as a process to investigate and discover the natural relationships in our world.

## Department Outcomes

### Scientific Knowledge

1. Graduates will know the characteristics, structure, and function of living things and how living things interact with each other and the environment.
2. Graduates will analyze the relationship between structure and function of living systems at a variety of organizational levels.
3. Graduates will apply an understanding of atomic and molecular structure to explain the properties of matter and predict outcomes of chemical reactions.
4. Graduates will apply an understanding that energy exists in various forms, and its transformation and conversion occur in processes that are predictable and measurable.

### Investigation and Analysis

5. Graduates will gather, organize, and interpret data and graphs in order to be prepared for college-level work in the sciences.
6. Graduates will compose detailed, thoughtful conclusions and responses, tied to evidence, through technical writing and discussion.
7. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of how the study of science directly applies to the physical and biological world by analyzing and creating models and examining real-world connections.
8. Graduates will work together during learning, problem solving and lab experiences, in order to enhance understanding of the physical and biological world.

### Biblical Worldview Integration

9. Graduates will evaluate the role that worldview and scripture plays in the scientific disciplines.
10. Graduates will observe, question, and examine the beauty, majesty, and orderliness of God's creation.

## Course Descriptions

### Biology

SCI 110

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 9, 10

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Biology is a course dedicated to helping students explore God's creation by engaging with the broad spectrum represented in all life on Earth. Students will gain a deeper understanding and awe of their Creator and His attention to detail, beauty, and order in all of His creation. Topics include ecology and ecosystems, humans and our responsibilities as "good stewards", cell structure and function, energy in living systems, genetics, DNA and protein synthesis, and plant and animal anatomy and physiology. Laboratory investigations emphasizing the scientific process include microscopy, explorations in genetics, environmental testing, and dissection.

## Honors Biology

SCI 120

Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Appropriate admission testing scores and recommendation of the student's Academic & College Counselor. Credit: 1

Explore the glory of God's creation through biology, the study of life. Topics include biochemistry, cell structure and function, energy in living systems, DNA and protein synthesis, genetics, and plant and animal anatomy and physiology. Laboratory investigations emphasizing the scientific process include microscopy, simulations and models, observation of living organisms, and dissection. Students will engage in the broad spectrum represented in biology, from cells to humans, and stand in awe of their Creator--His attention to detail, beauty, and order. Honors biology students will find coursework more challenging in critical thinking, laboratory skills, reading, and writing requirements.

## Chemistry

SCI 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 73% or better in Biology/Honors Biology and Algebra I Credit: 1

Any study of God's creation inevitably leads to an investigation of the basic components that He made and used to form the universe. Chemistry is the study of these components—atoms—and what makes them different, how they bond together, and the special properties that result. Students will discover the signature of God through their study of the atom, the interaction of matter and energy, thermodynamics, and the periodic table.

## Honors Chemistry

SCI 220

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 93% or better in Biology and Algebra I or 83% in Honors Biology Credit: 1
- Approval of a student's Academic & College Counselor is required. Previous performance in advanced courses will be taken into consideration.

Any study of God's creation inevitably leads to an investigation of the basic components that He made and used to form the universe. Chemistry is the study of these components—atoms—and what makes them different, how they bond together, and the special properties that result. Students will discover the signature of God through their study of the atom, the interaction of matter and energy, thermodynamics, and the periodic table. Honors Chemistry students will find coursework to be at a heightened pace as well as the use of problem solving requiring higher level algebra skills.

## Marine Science

SCI 305

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Grade of 73% or better in Biology and Chemistry.
- Priority is given to Seniors who require a science course to meet graduation requirements.
- Course Fee

Credit: .5

Students will be learning about God's creation in the marine environment by completing two major projects: 1) a saltwater aquarium project emphasizing ocean chemistry, the importance of chemical cycles, marine ecology, and species compatibility and 2) a classification project emphasizing mastery of one marine group in the areas of classification, anatomy and physiology, behavior, symbiosis, and ethical issues as they pertain to Christian worldview. Students will also learn about physical oceanography through the study of waves and tides, plate tectonics, marine biomes, and gas/pressure relationships. Dissections include squid and dogfish shark.

## Physics

SCI 310

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry
- Concurrent Enrollment in Algebra II or higher
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

College-prep Physics is a full year class highly recommended as an introduction to a more mathematically rigorous AP Physics course. This course is well suited for students seeking a liberal arts or non-science-based degree at a competitive college. This course requires an understanding of algebra and trigonometry and is designed to help students fully appreciate our world and the laws of nature, especially in light of how order reflects the nature of God in our world. This course covers Newtonian mechanics, sound, electricity, magnetism and light.

## Honors Physics

SCI 320

Prerequisites:

- A grade of 83% or better in Biology/Honors Biology, Chemistry/Honors Chemistry, and Algebra II/Trig/Honors Algebra II
- Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Honors Physics is a full year class highly recommended as an introduction to a more mathematically rigorous AP Physics course. This course is well suited for students seeking a liberal arts or science-based degree at a competitive college. This course requires an understanding of algebra and trigonometry and is designed to help students fully appreciate our work and the laws of nature, especially in light of how order reflects the nature of God in our world. This course covers Newtonian Mechanics, Sound, Electricity, Magnetism, and Light.

## Forensic Science

SCI 335

Prerequisites:

- 73% or higher in Biology and Chemistry
- Priority is given to Seniors who require a Science course to meet graduation requirements

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Forensics is a field of science dedicated to the methodical gathering of evidence through crime scene investigation and analysis of evidence to establish facts that can be presented in a legal proceeding. The goal is to use scientific analysis to determine sequence of events that occur during a crime in order to link suspect(s) to the crime scene and to the victim. The ultimate goal is to expose truth and to seek justice, attributes expressing God's heart and character.

## Anatomy and Physiology

SCI 340

Prerequisites:

- 73% or higher in Biology and Chemistry
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This college-preparatory course provides an overview of God's intricate design of the human body through an introduction to human anatomy and physiology. The course includes lectures, in-class activities, videos depicting specific topics, projects/presentations, in-class organ dissections, and other lab-based experiences. Subject matter includes a review of general cell structure, medical terminology, and the eleven human body organ systems. There will be a 3-hour human donor experience at Colorado Christian University in the Spring Semester.



## Biotechnology – Principles and Practice

SCI 345

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Biology or Honors Biology, and Algebra I. Student must also have successfully completed or be concurrently enrolled in Chemistry/Honors Chemistry
- Priority is given to Seniors who require a science course to meet graduation requirements
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This course is inquiry-based, hands-on, and designed to provide students with a foundational understanding of the practical, social, and ethical implications of biotechnology within the framework of a Christian Worldview. Students will gain practical experience building the key knowledge, skills, and techniques used by professionals in the field of biotechnology, utilizing the same equipment found in a research lab or production facility.

Exploration of the complex interaction between science and society inherent in this field will be a regular feature of this course, focusing on case studies such as Henrietta Lacks and HeLa cells, cancer biology, infectious diseases, genetic engineering in plants and animals, forensic applications and bioremediation. Throughout the course, students will explore the current state of biotechnology and how it can be used to fulfill our mandate as followers of Christ to 1) heal the sick, 2) feed the poor, 3) do justice and love mercy, and 4) be good stewards of the earth. Students will regularly engage with the legal and ethical issues this technology presents, explore examples of biotechnology as it is used in the real world, and investigate possible careers in biotechnology.

## Robotics and Engineering

SCI 370

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Robotics and Engineering is a semester science elective where students explore the amazing world of robotics. This course predominantly focuses on the hands-on creation of robots that meet both remote and autonomous control requirements. Through the process of discovery, students will inherently learn product development life-cycle principles from an engineering perspective. Integrated software development will be encapsulated within a V-Model development framework. The product and software development processes will be learned via creation of robots that meet specified user criteria. Students will research formal development approaches and the current and future role of robotics in society.

All robots will be built using the Vex Robotics and Vex V5 block programming platform. A combination of both direct control and autonomous behavior utilizing a wide variety of feedback sensors will be integrated into the design requirements. Students will also integrate design and build of 3-D objects using Blender software and a MakerBot 3-D printer. Students will also take time to reflect on how engineering reflects God's Creation

## Robotics and Engineering II

SCI 371

Prerequisites:

- Robotics and Engineering
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Robotics II is a continuation of Robotics I in which students further their exploration of robotics theory and prototyping, and the principles of design from a biblical perspective. Students will continue using Vex V5 Kits and Vexcode V5 from the previous course to build more complex and elaborate devices and programs. Students will be trained in the use of the CAD program Fusion 360 and use this and 3D printers to create customized components for their prototypes.

\*Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

## Introduction to Engineering Design

SCI 375

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This course is designed to provide an overview of how technology is impacting the world, the leading innovation trends, the need for Christian leaders in tech, problem-solving with a formal design process, popular engineering fields, and tech entrepreneurship. This is a starting point for students who have had limited exposure to solving problems by working with their hands. The classroom environment is designed to replicate the feel of an engineering workplace with students treated as new hires in a tech company. Classwork is structured in a way that encourages students to research and seek answers rather than being given step-by-step instructions. The intent is to draw out of students' character traits that are important to the STEM fields such as curiosity, attention to detail, and perseverance. Students learn to identify and define problems, work in teams, and work through the design process. If the desired results are not attained students are taught to review and refine the process. Students are made aware of the broad scope of engineering and scientific careers and then introduced to a few popular fields through videos, guest speakers, and discussions. If hands-on technical work does not appeal to the student they learn they can still work in the STEM fields through sales, law, finance, and more. The primary goal of the course is to help students determine if a STEM career could be their passion and God's purpose for them.

## Engineering Design II

SCI 385

Prerequisites:

- Intro to Engineering Design
- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

The purpose of this course is to build on the Introduction to Engineering Design class. The student has determined that they want to seek a career in a STEM field. The character traits of a person who thrives in a STEM field are curiosity, initiative, attention to detail, and perseverance. The course uses real-world projects to introduce students to the complexities of working with real materials and regulations. Students will learn to solve problems that are important to the Christian mission of serving others. The STEM fields need servant leaders who use their technical skills to transform the world for Christ. Students will develop "just-in-time" learning skills instead of memorizing a fixed curriculum. In the working world students will be presented with a challenge. They will have to have the skills to define the objective, do research, and learn the things necessary to achieve the objective. They will have to collaborate and work with others in teams with well-defined roles. The course also develops Christ-centered leadership skills where students are encouraged to develop projects with the heart as well as the mind.

Note: This course is also listed under Technology.

## AP Physics I

SCI 430

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or higher in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry OR 83% or higher in Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry, and Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher, approval by Student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is a rigorous physics course covering the topics of one- and two-dimensional kinematics, forces, circular motion, gravitation, work, energy, power, momentum, rotation, and oscillations. Physics-based concepts, understanding, and both conceptual and quantitative problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course. Labs will enhance understanding and application of related physics topics. God's hand in creation is clearly seen in the forces that govern the universe as revealed in the study of physics. The course culminates with the required AP Physics 1 exam.

From the College Board: AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study, in-class activity, and hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion; systems, fields, force interactions, change, and conservation.

## Honors STEM Capstone

SCI 460

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee
- Must be in the STEM Endorsement

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

The STEM Capstone course is the culmination of the student's STEM education at Valor Christian. Building on prior knowledge and experience, the course includes hands-on deep dive into several specific areas of STEM, including case studies of issues in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Framed through the lens of a Christian worldview, instruction is tailored to equip and empower students with the necessary skills and insight to identify needs in the world, using their gifts and talents to create, test, and evaluate solutions to them. Students will be guided in selecting a capstone project and determining an appropriate mentor. Students should expect to spend at least 40 hours working on their capstone projects and complete a corresponding 4,000 word research paper. Students will present their projects to faculty, industry experts, and their peers at STEM Night.

## AP Biology

SCI 510

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Biology and Chemistry
- Approval by Student's Academic & College Counselor required. Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Recommended prior class: Anatomy and Physiology
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Biology is a one-year college level class that will engage students in high levels of critical thinking, inquiry, analysis, and evaluation. It encompasses scientific method, biochemistry, cell structure & function, biotechnology, genetics, evolution & origins, anatomy & physiology, taxonomy, behavior, and ecology. There are four big ideas, each with a variety of enduring understandings, and learning objectives. Students will focus on content as a way to provide examples for each of the big ideas and enduring understandings. The laboratory component includes 8 investigative labs that are specifically related to topics on the AP exam. Students are expected to take the AP Biology exam.

From the College Board: AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes- energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

## AP Chemistry

SCI 520

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or higher in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher and approval by Student's Academic & College Counselor required. Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Chemistry is a second-year, advanced study of the interactions between matter and energy, how chemical bonds are created, atoms are rearranged, properties of substances are altered, and energy is transferred through chemical reactions. Rigorous laboratory experiments will emphasize critical thinking, utilization of computer-based sensors and probes, and designing inquiry-based experiments stemming from proposed problems. God's creative majesty will be revealed as the intricacy, orderliness, and implicit laws of nature point to our Creator in an unmistakable manner. The course culminates with the required AP Chemistry exam.

From the College Board: The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Students are expected to take the AP Exam to receive college credit or placement at the student's college of choice. Students may be able to undertake second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or take courses for which general chemistry is a prerequisite. For other students, this course fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses.

## AP Physics C: Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism

SCI 550

Prerequisites:

- Concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus AB or higher;
- 83% or higher in AP Physics 1 or grade of 93% or higher in H Physics; approval by student's teacher/Academic and College counselor
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Physics C is a rigorous, second-year Physics course designed for students who are hoping to enter the fields such as Physics or Engineering in college. This course is equivalent to the first two semesters of college-level, calculus-based Physics. In addition to advanced physics curriculum, students will deepen their understanding of a Biblical worldview via learning about God's creation in the realm of physics. The first semester covers topics in Mechanics, such as kinematics, forces, energy, momentum, oscillatory motion, and gravitation. The second semester covers topics in Electricity and Magnetism ("E&M"), such as electrostatics, capacitance, simple and complex circuits, magnetic fields, and electromagnetism. The course culminates in two AP tests: one for each semester's content.

## DC Anatomy and Physiology

SCI 610

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or higher in Biology and Chemistry and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor. Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- [Course Fee](#)

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This is a dual credit, year-long, college level course intended for the student with an in-depth interest in Human Anatomy and Physiology. The course includes lectures, in-class activities, videos depicting specific topics, videos of surgical procedures, in-class organ dissections and other lab-based experiences. Students are given the opportunity to do in-depth study on topics of their choice, culminating in a project due at the end of the first semester. Subject matter includes basics of the cell and some of the 11 organ systems. Common health problems will be introduced corresponding to in-class subject matter and various healthcare careers are mentioned where appropriate. There will be an optional 3-hour human cadaver workshop in late Spring replacing the semester project in the Fall.

## Honors STEM Capstone

SCI 460

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee

Grade: 11

Term: Year

Credit: 1

The STEM Capstone course is the culmination of the student's STEM education at Valor Christian. Building on prior knowledge and experience, the course includes hands-on deep dive into several specific areas of STEM, including case studies of issues in science, technology, and engineering. Framed through the lens of a Christian worldview, instruction is tailored to equip and empower students with the necessary skills and insight to identify needs in the world, using their gifts and talents to create, test, and evaluate solutions to them.

## AP Computer Science A

TEC 410

Prerequisite:

- Completion of Intro to Computer Technology or Game Design
- Approval by the student's Academic and College Counselor.
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

AP Computer Science is a one-year course that covers an introduction to fundamental topics in computer science using the Java programming language. This course emphasizes Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) methodology, procedural abstraction, algorithms, data structures, data abstractions, as well as using Objects and Classes for problem-solving and algorithm development. In addition, students will consider how a biblical worldview and biblical principles interact with the social and ethical implications of technology use. The course is intended to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Test in AP Computer Science A.

Note: This course is also listed under Technology.

# Seminar

## 9th Grade Seminar and Curriculum

In order to ensure all students are set up for success, incoming 9th grade students take the 9th Grade Seminar class. This class is designed to help students develop skills that are essential for academic and personal success at Valor. Students have the opportunity to apply these techniques to the tasks they face as high school students. The emphasis is on learning and academic growth. Two class periods a week are dedicated to helping students produce high quality, excellent work in their core classes. The other two classes a week are dedicated to building identity, culture, and vision. At the end of the year students present a “My Anthem” speech that relates to what they have learned about themselves, how it applies to learning, and how it might apply to their future. Topics include Strengths/Weaknesses, Importance of the brain, personality, temperament, communication, grit, and personal gifts/talents/interests that might shed light on their direction and purpose in life. Additionally, students learn that their story and life is not isolated but fits into a larger story.

The 9th grade teachers in the core disciplines meet regularly to stay aware of each other’s curricular goals and student outcomes. The philosophy is to support and push students so that they feel safe to take challenges and risks academically. By the time they start the sophomore year, Valor desires that students are well prepared in their thinking, reading, writing, research and presentation skills. Ultimately, Valor believes that students will be more effective in their passions and areas of interest if they have their foundational skills in place.

### **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Seminar**

ELE 133

Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9

Term: Year

Credit: 1

The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade year is a crucial, transitional year for students. Each incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade class represents students from more than 70 area middle schools, which means students often come with varying readiness levels. It is Valor’s goal to be intentional with teaching foundational skills necessary for being a successful Valor student during their 9<sup>th</sup> Grade year. This class is designed to help students develop skills that are essential for academic and personal success at Valor.

# Engineering and Technology

## Program Description

The Technology Department provides all students with the foundation of knowledge necessary to become technologically literate. This includes a focus on working in a team environment using problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of hands-on computer experiences including design and programming of software, configuration of computer hardware and networks, the software development process, and working with applications and subject area software.

## Course Descriptions

### Robotics and Engineering

SCI 370

Prerequisites: None

- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11,12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Robotics and Engineering is a semester science elective where students explore the amazing world of robotics. This course predominantly focuses on the hands-on creation of robots that meet both remote and autonomous control requirements. Through the process of discovery, students will inherently learn product development life-cycle principles from an engineering perspective. Integrated software development will be encapsulated within a V-Model development framework. The product and software development processes will be learned via creation of robots that meet specified user criteria. Students will research formal development approaches and the current and future role of robotics in society. In addition, explore ideas of how the engineering process reflects God the great designer.

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

### Robotics and Engineering II

SCI 371

Prerequisites:

- Robotics and Engineering
- Course Fee

Grade: 10, 11,12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Robotics II is a continuation of Robotics I in which students further their exploration of robotics theory and prototyping. Students will continue using Vex V5 Kits and Vexcode V5 from the previous course to build more complex and elaborate devices and programs. Students will continue to pursue robotics outside of the VEX ecosystem. Students will be trained in the use of the 3D modeling software and use this and 3D printers to create customized components for their prototypes. In addition, explore Arduino and Raspberry Pi components to continue learning and control different devices including servos and other output and input devices. In addition, the course will provide students the opportunity to articulate the significant role Christian faith plays in the engineering workplace.

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective. It is not listed every year, so please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

### Introduction to Engineering Design

SCI 375

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

This course is an introduction to engineering and a formal design process. It starts with the various ways that engineers find projects to work on, with a specific focus on identifying those projects that serve others. In addition, the course investigates the myriad of fields and careers in engineering and emphasizes Christ-centered leadership where students are encouraged to develop projects with the heart as well as the mind. Once students have learned the basic fundamentals of design and engineering, the majority of the class will be spent working hands-on to solve various problems. Students will engage with aerospace, structural, materials, and electrical engineering principles through various experiential engineering projects. Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

## Engineering Design II

SCI 385

Prerequisites:

- Intro to Engineering Design
- Course Fee

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

The purpose of this course is to build on the Introduction to Engineering Design class for students who want to continue investigating a career in a STEM field. The course uses real-world projects to introduce students to the complexities of working with real materials and regulations. Students will learn to solve problems with the goal of building their skills to further the Christian mission of serving others and develop Christ-centered leadership skills. Through project-based learning, students will have to collaborate and work with others in teams through well-defined roles. Students will be presented with real-world engineering and design challenges. They will learn the skills to define the objective, conduct research, and then solve the engineering problem through a design-build process. In addition, students will understand the relationships between all stakeholders (engineers, scientists, business, production/technicians, suppliers, customers, etc.) related to the practice of engineering Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

## Honors STEM Capstone

SCI 460

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee
- Must be in the STEM Endorsement

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

The STEM Capstone course is the culmination of the student's STEM education at Valor Christian. Building on prior knowledge and experience, the course includes hands-on deep dive into several specific areas of STEM, including case studies of issues in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Framed through the lens of a Christian worldview, instruction is tailored to equip and empower students with the necessary skills and insight to identify needs in the world, using their gifts and talents to create, test, and evaluate solutions to them. Students will be guided in selecting a capstone project and determining an appropriate mentor. Students will should expect to spend at least 40 hours working on their capstone projects and complete a corresponding 4,000 word research paper. Students will present their projects to faculty, industry experts, and their peers at STEM Night.

## Introduction to Computer Technologies

TEC 165

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Algebra I.

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Introduction to Computer Technologies is a semester course designed to provide exposure to the breadth of the field of computer science. The class will foundationally be built on projects that build problem solving and technology literacy skills, as well as a consideration of how biblical principles apply. This course contains a wealth of topics beyond coding which is covered in AP Computer Science. The course will cover the hardware components of computer systems, how to assemble a simple computer system, intro to programming, foundations of operating systems, installing operating systems, App Development, navigating an operating system console, foundations of designing a database, how to use SQL to add to and search databases, how to setup a server, using a router, and foundations of internet security and ports. Students will be encouraged to develop skills to further their learning in computer technology on their own and to explore at their own pace.

## Introduction to Game Design

TEC 195

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: .5

Throughout this extensive training series students will learn beginner to expert level techniques in the areas of 3D game development (Unity), computer animation, digital painting, and programming. Students will learn expert techniques and workflows from veterans who have been working in the game industry for over 15 years and have a passion for making great games. There will be extensively trained on programs like Unity, Maya, 3DS Max, Mudbox, and Photoshop. Learning powerful tools like these are made easy with fun projects that are designed to take the fear out of learning such advanced software like Unity3D.

## Game Design II

TEC 215

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- Intro to Game Design OR AP Computer Science

Credit: .5

Game Design 2 builds on critical skills with Unity, Github, and AGILE Methodology. Additionally students have more freedom to pursue a platform and game style of choice including 3D design, console design, or VR. Students will need to build or find robust assets that they can implement to make a well developed game. Students will work to build beyond just basic affordances and focus on tension and release concepts as they work to develop a natural flow to their game. Students will also reflect on games that already exist in their genre in order to reflect on how those games can affect their design concepts. In addition, the class will explore the parallels between God being a creator and making a fictional world.

Note: This course is not offered every semester. Please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

## AP Computer Science A

TEC 410

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite:

Term: Semester

- Completion of Intro to Computer Technology or Game Design and Approval by the student's Academic and College Counselor.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

AP Computer Science is a one-year course that covers an introduction to fundamental topics in computer science using the Java programming language. This course emphasizes Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) methodology, procedural abstraction, algorithms, data structures, data abstractions, as well as using Objects and Classes for problem-solving and algorithm development. In addition, students will consider how a biblical worldview and biblical principles interact with the social and ethical implications of technology use. The course is intended to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Test in AP Computer Science A..

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

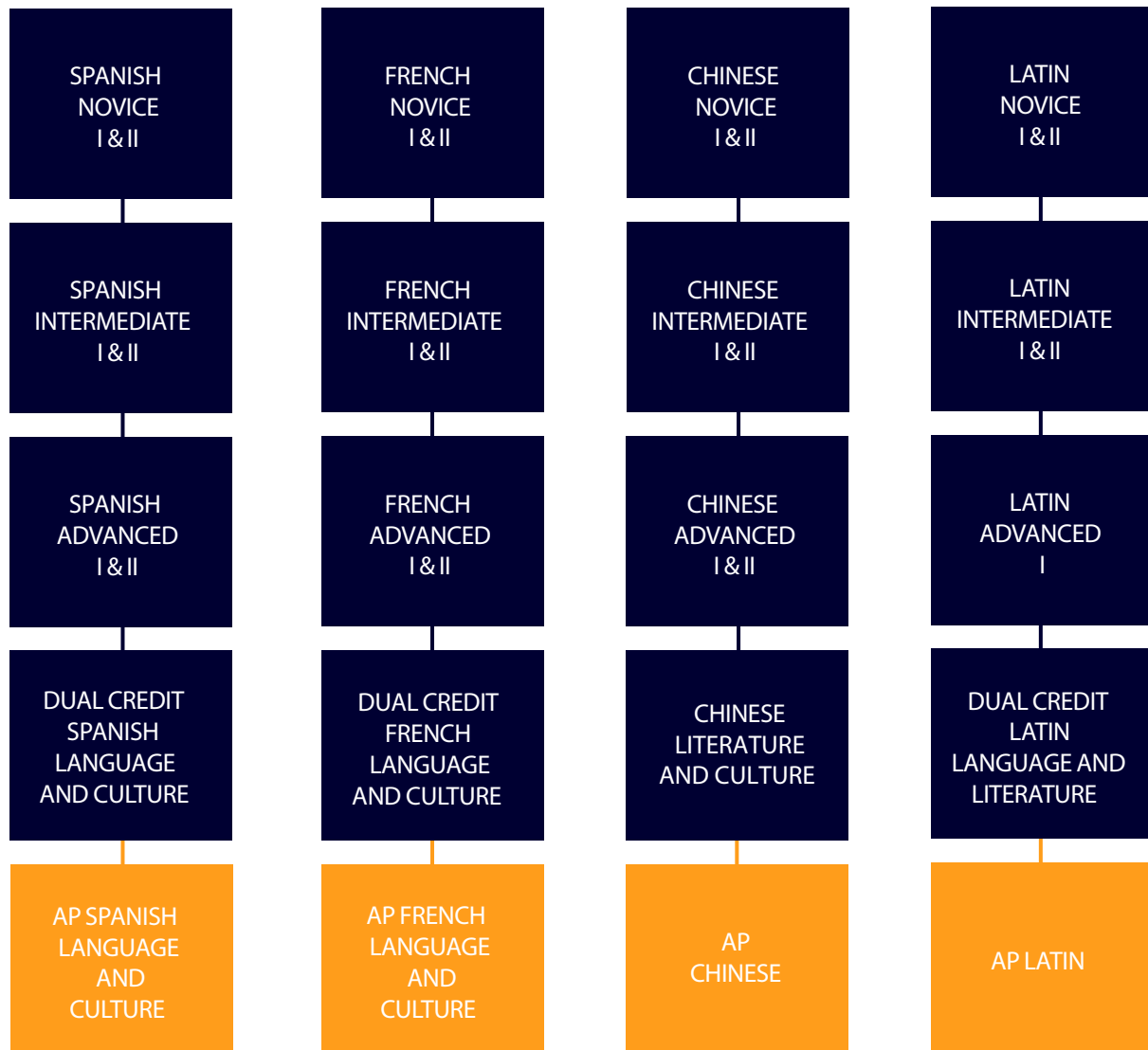


# World Languages

Department



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 2 YEARS



*Note: Placement testing is required for all incoming students desiring a course above Novice I*

# World Languages

## Program Description

The Valor World Language Department strongly believes that it is essential for us as Christians to reach out in the name of Christ to other peoples of the world through their own languages and their own cultures. The primary aim of the World Languages Department is that Valor students be functionally fluent in their language of choice by the conclusion of their four years of study, and that they are equipped to interact with the ideas of people in different nations, cultures, and times, allowing them to fellowship with, serve, and love God and his people in new and better ways. In order to accomplish this, students will be immersed in their language of choice, and will participate in varied activities that focus on both the structure and use of their target language.

## Department Outcomes

### Speaking

1. Graduates acquire the ability to begin and carry on an unrehearsed conversation.
2. Graduates possess a developing knowledge of conventions, grammar and vocabulary, cultural knowledge of the target language consistent with their years of study in the target language.

### Reading

3. Graduates are regular and active readers who can understand the main idea and many details in written texts of varied formats and genres that contain familiar vocabulary and can get the gist of written texts that contain limited unfamiliar vocabulary.

### Listening

4. Graduates are eager discussion participants who can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters expressed through a series of sentences, conversations, and forms of media.

### Writing

5. Graduates can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar, or of a personal nature.
6. Graduates can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

### Cultural Savoir Faire:

7. Graduates are enthusiastic travelers who are eager to connect with non-English speaking people groups and who can navigate most situations likely to arise while traveling or residing in an area where the target language is spoken.
8. Graduates understand how fluency can be used to engage with a culture different from one's own and be used to glorify God.

## World Language Student Placement

Incoming students will take a language placement exam which will dictate their placement in a specific course level. In subsequent years, placement will be dictated by student proficiency in the language as well as teacher recommendation for advancement. Students may be required to take the second year of a particular level if they have not demonstrated adequate proficiency.

## Course Descriptions

### Chinese Novice I/II

CHI 130

Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Chinese Novice I offers students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of Chinese language and culture. Chinese Novice I is an interactive, story-based introduction to the language. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Chinese Novice I is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students become familiar with the pinyin phonetic system for pronouncing and typing Mandarin and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with some reference to traditional script.

### Chinese Intermediate I/II

CHI 230

Prerequisites:

- Chinese Novice I/II or instructor approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Chinese Intermediate offers students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of Chinese language and culture. Like Chinese Novice level courses, Chinese Intermediate I is an interactive, story-based curriculum. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Chinese Intermediate I is designed for students who have one year or more of high school Chinese language study. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the second year, students have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students use the pinyin phonetic system for pronouncing and typing Mandarin and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with reference to traditional script.

### Chinese Advanced I/II

CHI 330

Prerequisites:

- Chinese Intermediate I/II or instructor approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Chinese Advanced I offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and culture. Chinese Advanced I is a cumulative and energetic curriculum that expands students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Advanced I is designed for students who have two years or more of high school Chinese language study. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the third year, students will have necessary guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students use the pinyin phonetic system to type and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with reference to traditional script.

## Honors Chinese Language and Culture

CHI 420

Prerequisites:

- Chinese Advanced or instructor approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Honors Chinese Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and the Chinese culture. Chinese Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Honors Chinese Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## AP Chinese Language and Culture

CHI 610

Prerequisites:

- Honors Chinese Language or instructor approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Chinese Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and the Chinese culture, preparing students to sit for the AP Chinese Language and Culture . Chinese Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Honors AP Language and Culture. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In AP Chinese Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## French Novice I/II

FRE 130

Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

French Novice offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the French language and culture. French Novice I is an energetic, story-based introduction to the language. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. French Novice I is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## French Intermediate I/II

FRE 230

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Mastery of French Novice I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1

This course is for students who have completed at least one year of French. It is designed to encourage students to continue to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the diversity of cultures and language. It is taught almost exclusively in the target language but rendered comprehensible to students as needed. Emphasis is placed on proficiency as students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. This is accomplished through stimulating class content including culture, art, storytelling, scripture, faith-based stories, novels, mini-stories, music and grammar study, with ample guidance from the teacher.

## French Advanced I/II

FRE 330

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Mastery of French Intermediate I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1

French Advanced provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of French language and culture. French Advanced is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that expands students' competence with French language and culture. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. French Advanced is designed for students who have taken a minimum of two years of French and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In this course, students will have necessary guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more advanced structures, more colloquial structures, and more precise syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## DC French Language and Culture

FRE 430

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Mastery of French Advanced I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1

French Language and Culture provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of French language and culture. French Literature and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that expands students' competence with French language and culture and specifically readies students for college-level language study. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. French Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken a minimum of three years of French and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In this course, students will rely less on substantial guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students will interact with more authentic materials and student fluency skills will set the pace. Students continue to acquire more advanced structures, more colloquial structures, and more precise syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework with greater ease and independence. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## AP French Language and Culture

FRE 510

Prerequisites:

- DC French Language and Culture or instructor approval

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP French Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the French language and the French culture. This AP course prepares students to excel on the AP French Language and Culture examination. AP French is designed for students who have taken four years of French. Students acquire advanced, colloquial structures, and literary syntax of the language in context. The AP course expects that students are self-guided, yet guidance is available from the teacher in order to accomplish the desired proficiency goals. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers combined in a 21st century framework. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students seek to achieve "B1", or "intermediate low" level fluency skills in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. This course prepares students to perform the communicative, and written tasks present on the AP test in both the presentational and interpersonal modalities.

## Latin Novice I/II

LAT 130

Prerequisites:

- None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Latin Novice I provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Latin language and Roman culture, and which fosters an understanding of the importance of the interaction of Christian thought with both throughout history. Novice Latin is a story-based approach to acquiring proficiency in reading, hearing, speaking and writing Latin. Latin language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Roman culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## Latin Intermediate I/II

LAT 230

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Novice I/II or instructor approval

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Latin Intermediate provides students with an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Latin language and Roman culture. Latin Intermediate I is an energetic, story-based continuation of the learning begun in Novice. Latin language courses are partially taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Latin Intermediate I is designed for students who have begun to study the language in Latin I. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Romantic culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## Latin Advanced I/II

LAT330

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Intermediate I/II or instructor approval.

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Latin Advanced provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation and actions through the study of the Roman language, culture, and the writings of well-known Roman authors as well as Latin-speaking Christians in early church history. The Latin Advanced curriculum is designed to expand students' abilities to read, write, listen and speak in the target language, with special attention given to the reading and discussion of the genres of theology, philosophy, (auto)biography, history, and poetry. Latin language courses are taught in the target language as much as possible, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. Latin Advanced I is designed for students who have taken a minimum of two years of Latin and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency in reading Latin texts, and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students will acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and a more precise understanding of syntax. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Roman culture and history will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## DC Latin Language & Literature

LAT430

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Advanced I/II or instructor approval.

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Latin Language and Literature provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation and actions through the study of the Roman language, culture, and the writings of well-known Roman authors as well as Latin speaking Christians in early church history. The Latin Language and Literature curriculum is designed to expand students' abilities to read, write, listen and speak in the target language, with special attention given to the reading and discussion of the genres of theology, philosophy, (auto)biography, history and poetry. The course builds on concepts and literature studied at the Advanced levels and is for students who wish to deepen their Latin ability and knowledge of Latin literature, as well as prepare for the AP Latin course. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency in reading Latin texts, and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students will acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and a more precise understanding of syntax. Roman culture and history will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## AP Latin

LAT610

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of DC Latin Language & Literature or instructor approval.

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP Latin is designed to provide advanced students with a rich and rigorous Latin course. Students who successfully complete the course are able to read, understand, translate, and analyze Latin poetry and prose. Throughout the course, students develop their language skills through various activities including precise translation, reading comprehension, and written analysis. Linguistic competence, important as it is, does not exhaust the goals of studying Latin. The Latin language is also the best route to learning about the history, literature, and culture of the ancient Romans. Texts have been chosen that will allow students to encounter some of the important people, events, and literary genres of Roman times, focusing on the core periods of the late Republic and the early Principate.

## Spanish Novice I/II

SPA130

Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Spanish Novice I offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Spanish Novice is an energetic, story-based introduction to the language. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Spanish Novice is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## Spanish Summer Immersion

SPA135

Prerequisites: SPA230/240 or Instructor Approval

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

This immersive language and culture experience in Guatemala will challenge students to grow in faith, language skills and cross-cultural understanding through a 23-day study abroad and service experience in Guatemala and Honduras. During the first 10 days of the course, students will live with Guatemalan families in the beautiful city of Antigua, Guatemala. During the day, students will attend the Christian Spanish Academy where they will study Spanish 1 on 1 with a certified Guatemalan teacher for up to 6 hours/day (a total of 50 hours). Next, students will travel east to the towns of Zacapa, Guatemala and Copán Ruinas, Honduras, and will use their language skills in various service projects with children, teenagers and families. In particular, our team will serve the poor and marginalized in the community surrounding the city garbage dump in Zacapa, Guatemala. A significant emphasis will be placed on spiritual growth and reflection as students process how God is speaking to them and challenging them to grow in their walk with Him.

\*Note: This class is only offered in the summer. To be eligible, you must also be accepted on the Guatemala Summer Discovery Trip.

## Spanish Intermediate I/II

SPA 230

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Spanish Novice I/II or instructor permission

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Spanish Intermediate offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Like Novice, Intermediate is an energetic, story-based curriculum. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Spanish Intermediate I is designed for students who have already taken Novice I or II (or an equivalent). The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Intermediate I, students will have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## Spanish Advanced I/II

SPA 330

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Intermediate Spanish I/II or instructor permission

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Spanish Advanced 1 offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Like Intermediate 1 and 2, Advanced 1 is an energetic, story-based curriculum. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Spanish Advanced 1 is designed for students who have already taken Intermediate 1 or 2 at Valor (or an equivalent), or who have tested into Advanced 1 via a placement test. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Advanced 1, students will continue to have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.



## DC Spanish Language & Culture

SPA 430

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Spanish Advanced I/II or instructor permission
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Spanish Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and the Spanish culture. Spanish Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Spanish language and culture. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Spanish Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Spanish Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

## AP Spanish Language and Culture

SPA 430

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of DC Spanish Language and Culture or instructor permission
- Course Fee

Grade: 11, 12

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Spanish Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and the Spanish culture. Spanish Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Spanish language and culture. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Spanish Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Spanish Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.