



ACADEMIC HANDBOOK

2022–2023 ACADEMIC YEAR



The future looks inspired.

Dear Upper School Families:

What does tomorrow hold for you?

This is a question you may or may not be able to answer depending on how you define tomorrow. At Maranatha we are empowering students to be ChangeMakers who will impact the world for Christ. Our courses are designed for students to be challenged at a level they can manage and grow. Through collaboration, exploration, and innovation, our students are asking questions, exploring opportunities, and developing solutions with the support of caring faculty.

Our programming extends well beyond academic classes. Advisory and Character Hour are designed to connect students to the Maranatha community. Typically, about 15 students form each advisory. Students are given daily opportunities to engage in conversations with their peers and teacher about their spiritual lives, academics, and future plans. This time of day reminds students that they have someone in their corner who is praying for them and cares for them on a deeper level.

Each week Middle and High School students come together for chapel where students are able to deepen their relationship with Christ through worship, prayer, and Scripture. Student-led worship invites the Kingdom of God to reside within our students and among the halls of Maranatha. That culture extends beyond our walls where students are serving our community by representing the hands and feet of Jesus.

Students can also engage in sports and clubs where leadership opportunities are encouraged. Reviewing our Clubs Handbook and visiting our Athletic Department will provide students various opportunities available for them in all seasons. As students engage in these activities, they are given opportunities to learn lifelong skills and grow in their character.

Supporting student development in academics, relationships, activities, and spiritual growth is the Maranatha community. This is where students develop into spirit driven leaders, curious explorers, gracious community builders, impactful innovators, courageous changemakers, and empathic problem solvers not only for today; but also tomorrow!

I look forward to another great school year together!

Miss Joanna Richter
Upper School Principal

MISSION STATEMENT

We are an influential school of collaborators, innovators, and explorers grounded in Christian faith, empowering co-creators of tomorrow.

CULTURE IN ACTION STATEMENT

Maranatha is not just a school, it's a community with a heartbeat and soul. Each student and staff member breathes life into and contributes to what makes up the culture of the school. Together we commit to become:

- Spirit Driven Leaders
- Curious Explorers
- Impactful Innovators
- Courageous Changemakers
- Gracious Community Builders
- Empathic Problem Solvers

ACCREDITATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools
- Cognia
- College Board
- Independent School Management (ISM)
- International Christian Accrediting Association (ICAA)
- Minnesota Association of College Admission Counseling
- Minnesota Independent School Forum (MISF)
- Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL)
- National Association of College Admission Counseling
- National Association of Student Councils
- National Honor Society (NHS)
- Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship (ORUEF)

Community Service Program

This program provides every student in grades 6–12 the opportunity to experience Acts 1:8 in ministering to the community through service projects on a local, national, and international level. Upper school students are required to participate in the program each year. Service outreach offers an intensive learning experience for each student ministry volunteer, allowing the opportunity to try on various roles of responsibility while providing vital services for the community and ministry.

AREAS OF MINISTRY

1. Direct community service (e.g., hospital visitation, etc.)
2. Home church involvement
3. In-school ministry (e.g., evangelism, worship team, etc.)
4. Missions

REQUIREMENTS

1. Middle school students (Grades 6–8) must complete twenty-five hours of service outreach per school year.
2. High school students (Grades 9–12) must complete thirty-five hours of service outreach per school year.
3. Students must complete and submit their Community Service Hours through a Google document.
4. Bible teachers will review this with their students at the beginning of each school year.
5. Students not adhering to these due dates may be issued a detention.
6. Students may begin earning hours the first day of summer vacation to be applied to the upcoming school year.
7. Students may continue to earn community service hours beyond the required twenty-five to thirty-five hours.
8. Students in upper school may earn a school letter by contributing 300 hours to the Community Service Program in a single year.

SPECIFIC LIMITATIONS

1. Hours cannot be carried over from year to year.
2. Students cannot include hours that were compensated monetarily, academically, etc.
3. MCA reserves the options to do the following:
 - Find mandatory service hours for students not fulfilling required hours.
 - Find mandatory service hours for students having a history of not fulfilling required hours.
 - Withhold the diploma and/or school records of graduating seniors not fulfilling required hours.
 - Decline hours that are not “pure ministry” (e.g. family business or chores).



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6–8



Like middle C on the piano, we believe the middle is the foundation, the home base, the starting point for what will become a beautiful composition in life's masterpiece. Equally, middle school at Maranatha is a well-orchestrated element of our students' education and future.

When students and parents visit our campus, they feel the difference here almost immediately. Maranatha is a community with a heartbeat and each student plays an important part of our community. In this community, we believe our Middle School students were created to Thrive!

| SURVIVE | MARANATHA HELPS YOUR STUDENTS THRIVE |
|---|---|
| My teachers are annoyed by me. | Maranatha teachers enjoy engaging with me and value my ideas. |
| I tread lightly around my teachers. | Maranatha teachers believe I am fearfully and wonderfully made. |
| My teachers tell me what I have to do to get good grades. | Maranatha teachers know my name, my struggles, and my passions and help me succeed in school. |
| My teachers are too busy to answer my questions. | Maranatha teachers anticipate my questions and welcome them. |
| My teachers only help me during class time. | Maranatha teachers help me beyond my academic classes and offer help sessions to me. |
| My school doesn't give me any freedom. | Maranatha believes in giving me opportunities to grow as a learner. |

Academic Counseling Program

The goal of academic counseling during the Middle School years is to embrace exploration as they learn more about themselves and the opportunities available to them. Naviance is an online site which can be used by our students and parents for a variety of purposes including interest evaluations, knowing yourself, setting goals, and more. Students and parents have individual accounts to review curriculum lessons.

| | FALL | WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER |
|---------|---|---|---|--|
| GRADE 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test Welcome to Middle School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Night |
| GRADE 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Night |
| GRADE 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Night |
| GRADE 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MAP Test Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PreACT Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to High School Naviance Curriculum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Back to School Night |

Middle School Course Load

| Grade 5 | Grade 6 | Grade 7 | Grade 8 |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Art | Art | Bible | Bible |
| Innovation Hour/ Library | Bible | Foundations of Technology | Language Arts |
| Language Arts | Language Arts | Language Arts | Math: Algebra 1 or Geometry |
| Math | Math: Foundations of Math or Pre-Algebra | Math: Pre-Algebra or Algebra 1 | Physical Education/ Health |
| Music | Physical Education | Physical Education/ Health | Science: Earth & Space |
| Physical Education | Science: Earth & Space | Science: Life | Social Sciences: U.S. Studies |
| Science | Social Sciences: MN History | Social Sciences: Global Studies | World Language: ASL or Spanish |
| Social Sciences | STEAM: Design & Modeling | Year Electives: Band or Choir | Year Electives: Band or Choir |
| STEAM | | Semester Electives: Art, Current Events, Design Lab, , Fantasy Lit and Writing, Historical Fiction, Intro to Chapel Band, Lego Programming, Speech, Storytelling and Literature Video Game Design Theater, Textile Arts | Semester Electives: Art, Current Events, Design Lab, Fantasy Lit and Writing, Foundations of Technology, Historical Fiction, Intro to Chapel Band, Lego Programming, Speech, Storytelling and Literature Video Game Design Theater, Textile Arts |
| Electives: Choir or Band | Electives: Choir, Band, or Theater | | |

Schedule Changes

At the beginning of the school year, students will have five school days to request changes to schedules. In the second semester, students will have three days to adjust their schedules. All changes must be made with the College and Career Counseling Office.

Fee-Based Classes & Phy. Ed. Uniforms

All fees for fee-based classes are billed through Facts. Prices for these courses are listed in the course descriptions.

Students in Physical Education, clothing will be available for purchase through Branding Wearhouse (maranatha.brandingwarehouse.com). Please note the expectation for all Physical Education Classes is that students must be dressed in MCA Physical Education attire, including a Maranatha gym performance T-shirt, athletic bottoms, and athletic shoes. This will be part of the participation grade. Students not wearing the correct clothing will lose participation points. Consequences will be issued if students do not attend in the required clothing.

Students may wear black, dark blue, or grey athletic pants (no yoga-type pants) with red or white trim (no other colors). Clothing may be obtained independent of the school clothing store.

School Year Marking System and Grade Point Averages (GPA)

MCA operates on a semester system. The school year consists of two semesters, each approximately eighteen weeks. After a quarter/semester, report cards are uploaded to FACTS Family portal. Educational institutions use grade Point Averages (GPA) to award high academic achievement (honor roll, National Honor Society, academic lettering, etc.) To calculate a GPA, total the point for all classes and divide by the number of courses taken. To see the value of each percentage score/grade, refer to the MCA Grading Scale.

| GRADE | PERCENTAGE | GPA VALUE |
|-------|--------------|-----------|
| A | 92.5 – 100 | 4.0 |
| A- | 89.5 – 92.49 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 86.5 – 89.49 | 3.33 |
| B | 82.5 – 86.49 | 3.0 |
| B- | 79.5 – 82.49 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 76.5 – 79.49 | 2.33 |
| C | 72.5 – 76.49 | 2.0 |
| C- | 69.5 – 72.49 | 1.67 |
| D+ | 66.5 – 69.49 | 1.33 |
| D | 62.5 – 66.49 | 1.0 |
| D- | 59.5 – 62.49 | 0.67 |
| F | 00.0 – 59.49 | 0.0 |

Honor Recognition

Academic Honor Roll recognition is awarded each quarter. Students who receive a “D” or “F” in any course become ineligible for honor roll during that quarter. Honor Roll is marked on a student’s report card each quarter. There are two honors categories for middle school students:

- High Honor Roll: grade point average of 3.5–4.0
- Honor Roll: grade point average of 3.0–3.49

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society (grades 6–9) is the nation’s premier organization established to recognize outstanding middle level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since its beginning in 1929. Students must have a 3.5+ GPA and demonstrate strength in areas of service, leadership, and character.

Academic Intervention

Academic Intervention is a program designed to hold students accountable for missing assignments, tests, and poor academic performance. It is the goal of the school to see students achieve their full academic potential. Academic intervention takes place in coordination with each specific teacher’s help sessions.

Teachers may require students to attend a mandatory tutoring as a result of one or more of the following:

- The student has two late assignments in one class OR
- The student is two class periods late on an assignment OR
- The student has an incomplete test OR
- The student demonstrates poor/failing grades or generally poor academic performance (based on teacher discretion)

If the issues continue, students may be placed on an academic tracking plan with the advisor.

Summer School

Students who fail a course during the school year may be required to make up for the resulting loss of credit by satisfactorily completing a maximum of one credit during summer school. Additional makeup credit must have prior approval from the College and Career Counseling office.

Credits received in MCA’s optional summer semester academic enrichment classes or other outside organizations are not accepted in place of MCA required courses unless Upper School Administration has given previous clearance. See the Parent and Student Manual for more details on summer school.

Learning Support Services

Learning Support Services (LSS) is committed to identifying and meeting the distinctive educational needs of students through individualized educational programming by partnering with students and teachers.

The following are services provided by LSS:

- Write and manage student academic plans for students needing extra academic support
- Liaison between Osseo and Maranatha for students receiving special education services through the Osseo school district
- Assist students needing organizational support
- Special class placement in math for small group or one-on-one instruction based on student's need
- Dyslexia mini-screening and tutoring
- Outside services by referral for Speech and Language Therapy

MCA Accelerated

MCA Accelerated exists to provide extension activities and accelerated curricula for advanced or academically gifted students and to support advanced students' social and emotional needs. Students are identified for the program through testing and teacher recommendation.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Course Descriptions

Accelerated

ACCELERATED STEAM

Grades 5–6 (Yr)

Students will participate in project-based learning related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. They will solve real-world math problems, complete open-ended investigations related to science and technology, and participate in competitions such as MN Math Masters and the Mini Science and Engineering Fair. 6th graders have the option to develop and showcase a project or research paper at the Twin Cities Regional Science Fair.

Qualifications:

- Students must have an average MAP Math score of 90th percentile or above during the previous school year OR CogAT Quantitative test score at 90th percentile or above
- MAP Science score at or above grade level*

Cost: \$225 yearly (\$25 monthly billed to FACTS)

ACCELERATED SEMINAR

Grades 7–8 (Yr)

Students will explore their interests and discover advanced concepts in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Language Arts as they create projects centered on real-world themes. Students will participate in competitions including Perennial Math, WordMasters, and the Twin Cities Regional Science Fair. In addition, they will get a head start on college planning and preparing for college entrance exams, including the ACT, PSAT, and SAT.

Qualifications:

- Students must have an average MAP Math or MAP Reading scores of 90th percentile or above during the previous school year OR CogAT Quantitative or Verbal test score at 90th percentile or above.
- If space in the program is limited, students with scores above the 90th percentile in both Math and Reading OR both CogAT Quantitative and Verbal are admitted first.*

Cost: \$675 (\$75 monthly billed to FACTS)

ACCELERATED LANGUAGE ARTS

Grades 5–6 (Yr)

Students will hone their critical thinking skills by reading challenging and interesting texts that they choose themselves. They will develop their vocabulary and explore writing for a variety of purposes. Students will create and publish their own newsletters, magazines, websites, and books. Accelerated Language Arts students will participate in WordMasters Challenge, a national vocabulary, and analogical reasoning competition.

Qualifications:

- Students must have an average MAP Reading score of 90th percentile or above during the previous school year OR CogAT Verbal test score at 90th percentile or above
- MAP Language Arts score above grade level average*

Cost: \$225 yearly (\$25 monthly billed to FACTS)

*Qualifications represent a typical situation and may be subject to change in special circumstances, such as students with additional diagnoses that could interfere with testing. In such cases, additional qualifications that may be considered include but are not limited to Neuropsychological Test Results, CogAT Nonverbal Test scores, teacher recommendations, and student work samples.

ART

5th Grade Art (Sem)

Building on previous art experience, students will begin to study art history, focusing on individual artists. Students will use multiple mediums, including drawing, painting, and clay, creating projects highlighting knowledge of the artist being studied.

6th Grade MS Art Foundations (Sem)

Art exploration lessons incorporate art history, criticism, and self-assessment, using multiple art media, including architecture, graphic design, and clay-relief tiles. Students begin the year with step-by-step instruction on the basics of drawing and color theory, leading into acrylic painting.

BIBLE

5th Grade Bible (Yr)

In the 5th grade Bible class, we use the Building on the Rock: Stewardship curriculum. This class introduces biblical and unbiblical beliefs about God, the universe, human beings, truth, and value. Students will memorize scripture, identify main points, creatively apply concepts, reflect on important ideas, and participate in class discussions surrounding biblical Christianity as the true view of God and the world. We also build in times for group worship time in the classroom. The ultimate goal is to build confidence in the knowledge of scriptural truths and encourage students in their personal relationship with the Lord.

Homework: 30 minutes

Service Hours: 15

6th Grade Bible Building on the Rock: World of Worldviews (Yr)

This class introduces biblical and unbiblical beliefs about God, the universe, human beings, truth, and value. Students will memorize scripture, identify main points, creatively apply concepts, reflect on important ideas, and participate in class discussions surrounding biblical Christianity as the true view of God and the world. The ultimate goal is to build confidence in the knowledge of scriptural truths and encourage students in their personal relationship with the Lord.

Homework: 30 minutes

Service Hours: 25

7th Grade Bible Building on the Rock: God's New Family (Yr)

Building on the Rock: God's New Family (Yr.) Building upon the biblical foundations learned in 6th grade; this class explores God's plans for His Old Testament and New Testament families. Students will learn biblical principles to apply daily life. The ultimate goal is to build confidence in the knowledge of scriptural

truths and encourage students in their personal relationship with the Lord.

Homework: 30 minutes

Service Hours: 15

8th Grade Bible Walking in Truth: Christianity in Action (Yr)

Walking in Truth: Christianity in Action (Yr.) Building on the topics of a Christian Worldview (6th gr) and Competing Worldviews (7th gr), this course helps students understand how to live out their Christian worldview in a post-Christian culture.

Homework: 30 minutes

Service Hours: 25

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Foundations of Technology (Yr)

This course will introduce foundational technology skills students need to succeed to continue through middle and High School careers at Maranatha. Students will focus on using personal devices as a learning tool and increasing student competency in a digital organization, common word processing, presentation, and educational applications. Students will learn how to utilize Schoology as a learning management system. Students will also learn what it means to be a good digital citizen and use social media and technology in a way that honors God.

LANGUAGE ARTS

5th Grade English (Yr)

This course incorporates literature circles, writing, spelling, and grammar. We teach the basics of literary analysis, expository writing, creative writing, and poetry analysis. It includes extensive vocabulary development and an opportunity to write an MLA research paper. This course focuses on proper mechanics and grammar through a variety of activities. Further, students will use critical-thinking skills while reading a variety of literature that encompasses different genres and literary devices. Works will include The Hatchet, Number the Stars, Derwood Inc., Maniac McGee.

6th Grade English (Yr)

Incorporating literature, writing, and grammar, this class teaches the basics of literary analysis, expository writing, creative writing, and poetry analysis. It includes extensive vocabulary development and an opportunity to write an MLA research paper. This course focuses on proper mechanics and grammar through a variety of activities. Further, students will use critical-thinking skills while reading various literature that encompasses different genres and literary devices. Works will include Found, A Wrinkle

in Time, A Father's Promise, Where the Red Fern Grows, The City of Ember.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

7th Grade English (Yr)

Incorporating literature and grammar, English 7 teaches the basics of literary analysis, expository writing, and creative writing. In addition, English 7 includes extensive vocabulary development through the study of Greek and Latin roots. An in-class reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol and William Gibson's The Miracle Worker also introduces students to the medium of plays and provides an opportunity to work on speaking skills in front of others. Additional works: The Giver and The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

8th Grade English (Yr)

Incorporating literature and grammar, English 8 continues to build upon the basics of literary analysis and expository, creative, and persuasive writing while including extensive vocabulary development. Students will be introduced to Shakespeare's Twelfth Night with an opportunity to write an MLA research paper in conjunction with Christopher Paul Curtis' Bud, Not Buddy. Students will also write a speech with a digital slide/media presentation in conjunction with Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett's play The Diary of Anne Frank. Additional works: The Hobbit and The Old Man and the Sea.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

MATH

5th Grade Math (Yr)

Students are introduced to basic pre-algebraic concepts and will build upon previous math knowledge and increase in new skills that help students become stronger, more confident problem solvers. Concepts are taught through a spiralized approach and will be worked upon throughout the year to ensure success. Primary concepts include multiplying, dividing, adding problems, and solving ratio and rate problems.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

6th Grade Foundations of Math (Yr)

Students are introduced to basic algebraic concepts and will build upon previous math knowledge and increase new skills to prepare for pre-algebra. Concepts are taught by focusing on topics broken up into smaller lessons throughout the year to ensure success. Primary concepts include positive rational numbers, numeric and algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, ratio and rate, percent, area and volume, and data usage.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

Pre-Algebra (Yr)

Students are introduced to fundamental arithmetic concepts, to prepare students for Algebra 1. Topics are taught in small steps and spread over time in an incremental approach. Primary concepts include rational and real numbers, proportional relationships, percent problems, equivalent expressions, equations, inequalities, linear equations, probability, geometry, congruence and similarity.

Homework: 0-60 minutes

Algebra 1 (Yr)

Students are given a review of equivalent expressions, linear equations, and inequalities and introduced to various algebraic concepts. These concepts include solving power properties; writing, factoring, and graphing linear functions; writing and graphing exponential functions; polynomials; writing, factoring, and graphing quadratic functions; and simplifying rational expressions

Homework: 0-60 minutes

Geometry (Yr)

This course will introduce students to the foundations of Geometry, followed by instruction on postulates and theorems in a formal proof setting, with particular attention devoted to critical thinking skills. Other concepts include parallel and perpendicular lines; transformations; congruence and similarity in triangles; quadrilaterals; introduction to trigonometry; circles; and two- and three-dimensional models.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Homework: 40 minutes

MUSIC

5th Grade Band (Yr)

Students begin to develop skills in performing on an instrument. Students are expected to participate in performances during the year, including the Christmas Concert in December and spring concert during Experience Maranatha in May. Students are invited to the band open house during the summer before beginning band class to help decide which instrument to play. We partner with Schmitt music to bring instruments to our campus for students to explore.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

6th Grade Band (Yr)

Students continue to develop skills for performing on a chosen instrument. Students are expected to participate in performances during the year, including Christmas Concert in December and spring concert during Experience Maranatha in May.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

7th/8th Grade Band (Yr)

Students continue to develop performance skills in a large group setting, emphasizing instrumental performance techniques and the development of a good overall band sound. Students are expected to participate in performances during the year, including the Christmas Concert and Experience Maranatha concerts.

Prerequisite: Participation in school band for at least one year
Homework: 0-30 minutes

5th Grade Choir (Yr)

Students will develop singing skills while preparing for performances. Vocal techniques, stage presence, music of varying cultures, foundations of sight-reading, musical terms, and basic theory will be taught. Students will learn to sing in two-part harmony. Performances include the Christmas Concert and spring concert, Experience Maranatha.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

6th Grade Choir (Yr)

Students will develop their singing skills while preparing for performances. Vocal techniques, stage presence, sight-reading, musical terms, and basic theory will be taught. Students will learn to sing in two-part harmony. Performances include the Christmas Concert and spring concert during Experience Maranatha in May.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

7th/8th Grade Choir (Yr)

Students will develop their singing skills while preparing for performances. Vocal technique, stage presence, solfege/sight-reading, musical terms, and beginning theory will be taught. Students will learn to sing in two- or three-part harmony. Performances include the Christmas Concert and the spring concert during Experience Maranatha in May.

Prerequisite: Must be able to sing independently on pitch
Homework: 0-30 minutes

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

5th–8th Grade Physical Education (Yr)

Physical Education focuses on lifetime sports, sports education, fitness, and sportsmanship. It involves strategic learning relating to overall lifetime health, fitness, sports, sports competitions, and conduct, keeping in mind to be Christ-minded in all activities. Units covered include volleyball, badminton, pickle ball, playground games, golf, softball/baseball, tennis, hockey, soccer, basketball, skateboarding, etc. Classes are divided by gender and grade; the uniform is a gym shirt purchased from Branding Warehouse. See the Fee-Based Classes and Physical Education

Uniforms section for further details.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

7th–8th Grade Health (Sem)

This class alternates curriculum every other year. Year one focuses on health and wellness, taking charge of your health, achieving mental and emotional health, managing stress, and coping with loss. This class will also emphasize relationships; family, peer, and dating relationships resolving conflict; Project Alert (drug, alcohol, and cigarettes), and preventing violence.

Year two focuses on living a healthy life through proper nutrition, managing weight, eating behaviors, physical activity, and fitness. Other units covered will include personal care and body systems, Project Alert (substance resistance), and growth and development. This class also includes a dating/abstinence unit.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

SCIENCE

5th Grade General Science (Yr)

5th grade Science class explores environmental, life, ecological, and physical sciences through a Biblical Worldview lens. Students will develop and use problem-solving skills: observation, classification, sequencing, measuring, and comparing/contrasting. The curriculum focuses upon fundamental principles of science and presents God as the creator, sustainer, and upholder, along with notes on scientists who believed in creation. It also includes a health unit focusing on body transitions through adolescence.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

6th Grade Earth and Space Science (Yr)

This course is a study of energy and matter, with an overview of chemistry, physics, and earth/space sciences. The student will develop and use problem-solving skills: observation, classification, sequencing, measuring, and comparing/contrasting. It delves into space exploration and discusses origin theories.

Homework 0–30 Minutes

7th Grade Life Science (Yr)

Cells, heredity, diversity of living things, the human body, ecology, and the environment—Students study different types, parts, and functions of cells. Students will explore heredity and characteristics of bacteria, viruses, and animals. Students will also study population dynamics in communities, Earth's ecosystems and resources, and the human impact on our environment. Structures and functions of each body system and how systems work together are detailed in the unit on the human body. Students will complete hands-on laboratory experiments to more deeply explore these topics.

Homework 0–30 Minutes

8th Grade Earth and Space Science (Yr)

This course is a study of energy and matter, with an overview of chemistry, physics, and earth/space sciences. The student will develop and use problem-solving skills: observation, classification, sequencing, measuring, and comparing/contrasting. Units also delve into space exploration and origin theories.

Homework 0–30 Minutes

SOCIAL SCIENCES

5th Grade Minnesota History (Yr)

In this class, students explore geography, different ages of exploration, Native American tribes, the 13 colonies, and complete the year with an entrepreneur unit with a fun field to Biz Town! Students will have the opportunity to learn how to research, use STEAM skills to create a website, give mini-presentations, and collaborate with classmates on other fun projects.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

6th Grade Minnesota History (Yr)

This class explores Minnesota's long and diverse history, beginning with the area's earliest inhabitants, highlighting historical markers in our state's history, and continuing to the present day. Students will have the opportunity to collaborate and problem solve while studying Native American settlement, early European settlement and influence, and Minnesota's role in the Civil and World Wars. Students will explore how Minnesota's people and ideas helped shape the state and impact the nation, along with citizenship, economics, and the government of the United States.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

7th Grade Global Studies (Yr)

This course covers world regions, cultures, and global issues. Students will use skills such as civic participation, economic reasoning, geographic inquiry, and historical inquiry while exploring the world around them. Students also explore the relationships between diverse cultures and the world in which they live, will include reading, writing, discussion, analysis, and taking positions on multiple topics. Students will use various print and non-print sources to analyze and suggest solutions to real-world problems and analyze global and societal issues. The course goal is to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of the world's different geographical and cultural areas.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

8th Grade U.S. Studies (Yr)

This class offers an interactive and comprehensive overview of the history of the United States. Students will begin learning the rich history of the Indigenous people of North America and will conclude with the Civil War. Students will explore the content by annotating primary and secondary sources, reading

historical literature, creating hands-on projects, and participating in class discussions. This course also gives a glimpse of how all of us are part of God's redemptive plan and how He wants us to be co-creators of the future.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

STE(A)M

5th Grade Innovation Hour (Yr)

Innovation Hour combines literacy with innovation to produce a fun, hands-on class. Students will research, design, and create various projects during the year, such as the tiny house and the wax museum projects. In addition, students will spend time working in and planning events using the MCA School Garden. By the end of Innovation Hour, students will discover the maker inside themselves.

5th Grade STEAM (Sem)

5th grade STEAM is an accumulation of previous years, neatly packaging cross-cutting concepts and drawing on prior knowledge to create an elementary capstone year. 5th grade will continue to build on coding skills and apply them to units such as LEGO robotics and animation programming. 3D modeling is a crucial skill in Lower School STEAM to prepare students for upper school programs that expand their thinking and creativity.

6th Grade Design and Modeling (Sem)

This hands-on course has students work to develop innovative solutions for design and engineering problems. Students design and create a tabletop game, use CAD software to create 3-D objects, and use everyday items to design different animal prosthetics. Communication, teamwork, brainstorming, and problem-solving are a central part of the work in this course.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

*For 7th and 8th grade STEAM classes – see Electives

THEATER

6th Grade Theater (Yr)

Students learn the basics of stage terminology, stage movement, pantomime, voice quality, characterization, and improvisation through games, monologues, sketches, and scripts. In addition, participation in a one-act play or variety show at the end of the semester will showcase skills they have successfully acquired. If needed, students may be required to participate in extracurricular MCA Thespian productions. Homework: 0–30 Minutes

*For 7th and 8th grade Theater classes – see Electives

WORLD LANGUAGES

ASL (Yr)

This American Sign Language course is designed to introduce students to the basics of this beautiful language and the culture that created it. The environment of the class is designed to be both fun and educational. The course will focus mainly on vocabulary and the mechanics of communicating manually instead of verbally. Some specific areas covered include fingerspelling, numbers, and verbs. The class will also include learning greetings and introductions in ASL and some basic grammar sentences.

Throughout the entire class, students will also learn about the culture of the American Deaf community. Songs and games will be incorporated into the curriculum to help students constantly review and practice what has been learned.

Although the instructor is hearing, classes will be taught in ASL and English. The course will end with little or no spoken English by the instructor or students allowing students to learn the signs, ask questions, and practice the signs they have learned.

Available to Grade 8
Homework: 0–30 Minutes

Spanish I (Yr)

This Introductory course features the integration of language skills with the culture of Spanish-speaking people in a situational context. Course emphasis is on establishing the natural output of the Spanish language using consistent comprehension-based strategies.

Available to Grade 8
Homework: 0–30 Minutes

7TH/8TH GRADE SEM. ELECTIVES

Art (Sem)

In this hands-on art class students will learn at length about the different elements of design: line, shape, color, space/ form, and texture. Students will complete projects using each element. Students will work with drawing, painting, sculpture, and many other creative materials. Offering alternating years with MS Art History

Requirements: Certain projects will require the student to obtain additional material.

Fee: \$45

Current Events (Sem)

This course focuses on current issues affecting students' everyday lives. Students learn how to detect media bias, embrace exploration by researching current topics, and learn how to lead with empathy

by listening to different perspectives. Additionally, students will conduct interviews, participate in class discussions, and bring current news to the class. Above all, students will learn to ground themselves in Christian faith amidst the various conflicts of the world.

Homework: 30–60 minutes

Design Lab (Sem)

In this hands-on course, students will learn, design, and create different moving mechanisms. Students will explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, use CAD software, explore computer programming, and build toys. Problem-solving, tinkering, and teamwork are a part of this course.

Homework: 10–20 minutes

Fantasy Literature and Writing (Sem)

This course focuses on the study of “fantasy” as a genre and how to write fantasy stories. The main novel read throughout the semester is Alice in Wonderland, but many excerpts from other books such as The Return of the King, Fantastic Mr. Fox, and Catching Fire will also be read/studied. This course covers everything from early fantasy tales found throughout Greek mythology and the legend of King Arthur up to modern-day fantasy written by well-known authors such as Brandon Sanderson and Rick Riordan. This course is open to anyone interested in the “fantasy” genre.

Homework: 0–60 minutes

Historical Fiction (Sem)

This course offers a unique and comprehensive introduction to the genre of historical fiction. Students will read examples of the genre and discover new glimpses of the past. In addition, students develop critical skills to be an author of historical fiction to an audience of a specific age group from K–6. Conducting research with primary and secondary sources, students will craft an original work of historical fiction.

MS Introduction to Chapel Band (Sem)

Explore the essentials of being in a worship band through singing, playing the keyboard and acoustic guitar, and playing with a worship band. Learn the basics of playing chord charts to familiar worship songs. This class also has some opportunities throughout the year to lead worship in Middle School or Lower School chapel. Students in this course will grow musically, spiritually, and as leaders in the school and community.

Lego Programming (Sem)

Students in this course build and program Lego EV3 Mindstorm. Starting with constructing a robot vehicle and then program its movements to navigate a maze. Students are challenged to build and program robots

or machines to solve problems through different missions and objectives. Students work together, use the design process, solve problems, and explore physical computing in this hands-on course.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

Speech **(Sem)**

This introductory course in public speaking will give students opportunities to develop skills in preparing speeches and delivering it with confidence. Students will be exposed to various speech types, including impromptu, informative, and persuasive. This class also equips students with presentation skills needed to succeed in High School courses.

Homework: 0-30 minutes

Textile Arts **(Sem)**

Using the medium of textiles: threads, strings, cloth, etc., along with a possibility of dyes, paper, paint, and other media, students will create two and three-dimensional works of art such as collages, soft sculptures, and functional pieces like backpacks, ties, vests, bracelets, string bags, weaves, Macramé hangings, bags, aprons, and totes. Students will also learn simple hand stitches, and practical sewing skills. In addition, students will incorporate used articles of clothing and other recyclables and upcycle them into new works of art for decoration or function. Students will also learn simple “fix it” projects to repair rips, holes, hems, etc.

7th–8th Grade Theater **(Sem)**

Students learn improvisation through acting games, exercises, sketches, short lessons, and scripts. The goal is for students to experience a learning process that enhances lives and develops skills used in the world beyond. Theatre work contributes to the development of 21st Century Learning Skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and other life skills to serve them well in school and beyond. Students participate in a one-act play or variety show to showcase their new skills at the end of the semester. Also required is attending a theatrical production within the semester (MCA productions do count).

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

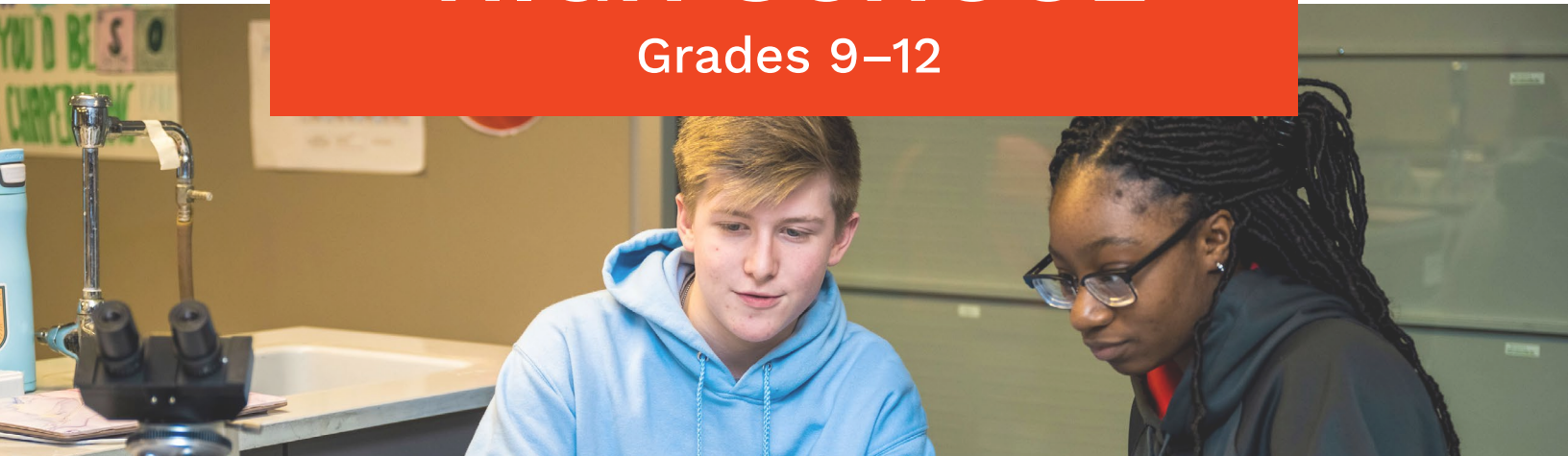
7th–8th Grade Storytelling and Literature **Video Game Design** **(Sem)**

This course is focused on studying video games and the impact of storytelling that happens throughout the game design. Students will also look at video games’ visual and auditory impact and how those components play a part in quality game design. Students will review a variety of video games throughout this course and create their own video game storyline.

Homework: 0–30 Minutes

HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9–12



In high school, we are teaching our students to courageously embrace change, empathically solve today's (and tomorrow's) problems, and impact progress.

Academic and College Counseling

It is the goal of the counseling department to assist students and parents in their academic journey through upper school and ultimately to a post-secondary decision. Naviance is an online site which can be used by our students and parents for a variety of purposes including interest evaluations, knowing yourself, setting goals, and more. Students and parents will be set up with an individual account. Please contact the Dean of Academics with any questions.

| | FALL | WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER |
|----------|--|---|---|--|
| GRADE 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Info Night • Financial Aid Info • MAP Test • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Aid Info Night • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAP Test • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors • AP/PSEO Applications Due | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to School Night |
| GRADE 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Info Night • Financial Aid Info • PSAT • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-ACT • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Day • AP/PSEO Applications Due • ACT Prep Course • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors • AP Exams | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to School Night |
| GRADE 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Info Night • Financial Aid Info • PSAT • ACT Prep Course • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Aid Info Night • ACT Prep Course • Sophomore Info Night • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Day • ACT Prep Course • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors • AP Exams | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back to School Night • Apply for Scholarships |
| GRADE 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Info Night • Financial Aid Info • Apply to College • ACT Prep Course • Create Common App Profile • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision Day • Naviance • Coffee with Counselors • AP Exams | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship application • Start College! |

Naviance Tools and Resources

Naviance is an online site which can be used by our students and parents for a variety of purposes including interest evaluation, career searches, college searches, financial aid opportunities, and more. The site is very user friendly and it includes tutorials if you need assistance. Below is an example of some of the tools this system offers:

MY CAREER PLAN

Planning activities and reflection fields for users to learn more about themselves.

My Work Values—Understanding your values will help users better consider future plans and what choices fit them. – Work Importance Locator

My Career Interests—Find out what you love to do. Interest inventories help you link your interests to occupations. – IDEAS or Interest Profiler

Occupations Feature—Compare careers that are featured in the results of your Interest Profiler.

COLLEGE SORT

This portion of the program uses your preferences to find colleges that interest you. Multiple lists can be created based on different criteria. Users answer as few or as many of the sort questions as they like and the results will give them the school name, state, type of school, admissions information, and size. Schools can then be saved and compared.

PAYING FOR SCHOOL

In this section users can explore the cost of a school, the amount you would likely pay, what a typical financial aid package might look like, tips on applying for financial aid, and tips and scams concerning scholarships.

FINANCIAL AID SORT

By selecting characteristics that match your educational plans, abilities, and background, you can locate potential local and national scholarship opportunities.

MY SKILLS

SKILLS helps you evaluate your next steps by identifying occupations that use the skills you know you like from your high school years and various experiences outside of school. You can identify skills that transfer between occupations. You can use SKILLS to select occupations to explore, identify ways to direct your career, develop a resume, and prepare for a job interview.

PRACTICE TESTS

Naviance offers multiple opportunities to practice for the exams students will encounter in their high school and postsecondary experience. The practice exams offered are:

PSAT—Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

ACT—American College Testing

SAT—Scholastic Aptitude Test

CLEP—College Level Examination Program

DSST—Dantes Subject Standardized Test

TOEFL—The Test of English as a Foreign Language

ASVAB—Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery

ACT/SAT Scholarship Program

High test scores on the ACT and/or SAT are important to your student's ability to gain acceptance into top colleges, as well as to receive scholarship dollars for college. These scores are also important to us, as the quality and rigor of MCA is often evaluated by our average ACT or SAT score.

Students can receive a scholarship for earning ACT scores of 30 and above (or the SAT equivalent) in 12th grade.

| | | | | | |
|--------|---------------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|
| ACT 30 | SAT 1390-1410 | \$ 200 | ACT 34 | SAT 1520-1550 | \$1000 |
| ACT 31 | SAT 1420-1440 | \$ 400 | ACT 35 | SAT 1560-1590 | \$1200 |
| ACT 32 | SAT 1450-1480 | \$ 600 | ACT 36 | SAT 1600 | \$1400 |
| ACT 33 | SAT 1490-1510 | \$ 800 | | | |

TOEFL Incentive Program

In addition to the ACT or SAT, many colleges and universities require international students to take the TOEFL exam for admission. They evaluate each student's writing, speaking, listening, and reading ability to determine if they are at a level acceptable for higher education. Colleges and Universities have their minimum expectations for TOEFL scores when considering international students for admission. Students who do well on the TOEFL their senior year will be awarded an incentive by the Head of School at the annual Awards Program per the following sliding scale:

| | | | | | |
|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| 95-104 | \$300 | 105-115 | \$400 | 116-120 | \$500 |
|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-------|

Seniors who take the MCA TOEFL prep class and score 105 or higher will receive reimbursement for the class up to \$300.

Requirements for Graduation

Graduates of MCA have met requirements as set by the school, the Minnesota Board of Education, and the State of Minnesota. Students must satisfactorily complete 30 credits during Grades 9–12 to be eligible for graduation. Occasionally, exceptions may be made in the case of transfer students who successfully passed previous coursework but came from institutions not offering as many credit opportunities as MCA. The dean of academics will determine the required and elective courses a transfer student must take and will seek final approval from the principal.

| .5 credit = one semester | | 1 credit = one year | |
|--------------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| SUBJECT | CREDITS | SUBJECT | CREDITS |
| Language Arts | 4 | Math ¹ | 3 |
| Science ² | 3 | Social Sciences ³ | 3.5 |
| Bible | 4 | World Language | 2 |
| Physical Education | 1 | Health | .5 |
| Fine Arts | 1 | Personal Finance | .5 |
| Electives | 7.5 | | |
| TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS | | 30 | |

¹²³ see next page

Students may take eight credits per year. A Bible credit is required for each year of attendance at MCA. All students in Grades 9–12 must annually perform 35 hours of community service which will be recorded with the Bible instructors. Additionally, students will need to present capstone speeches in the junior and senior years to graduate from MCA. Students satisfactorily completing the graduation requirements of MCA, must also bring financial accounts to a zero balance by the end of May in order to participate in commencement and receive a final transcript and diploma.

A student must be enrolled at MCA for a minimum of one school year (two semesters) to be granted a diploma from MCA. The High School experience is intended to be a four-year process in which students complete an extensive curriculum in preparation for undergraduate studies or work careers; there are no programs or provisions for early graduation. If a student at MCA has enough credits to graduate earlier than anticipated, the student will be scheduled for more coursework which better equips the student for the post-secondary experience.

Any senior needing more than two additional credits to meet graduation requirements will not be allowed to participate in commencement and will not receive a diploma until the credits have been earned.

Participation in commencement exercises is a privilege. Seniors involved in major disciplinary incidents during the second semester of the year may adversely affect participation in the graduation ceremony. The diploma will be awarded when the student, in the judgment of the administration, has satisfactorily completed all program requirements. Upper school administration and the head of school will hear situations that parents may deem as “unusual circumstances.”

Students participating in the AA Degree Program can fulfill MCA graduation requirements through the PSEO dual enrollment classes. Please see the separate A.A. handbook for specific information.

Sample Four Year Plan: Basic College Entrance*

These sample plans are for illustrative purposes only. Courses may be canceled due to insufficient enrollment and may not be scheduled as indicated.

| Grade 9 Courses | Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Total Semester Credits |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bible: Old Testament Bible | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Language Arts: English 9 | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Math: Algebra II/Integrated Algebra or Geometry | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Social Sciences: Economics | .5 | | .5 |
| Social Sciences: World Geography | | .5 | .5 |
| Science: Biology 9 | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| World Language: ASL/Spanish | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Elective(s) | | | |

| Grade 10 Courses | Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Total Semester Credits |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bible: Worldview | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Language Arts: American Literature | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Math: Algebra II/Integrated Algebra or Trig | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Science: Chemistry or AP Chemistry | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Social Sciences: American History or AP US History | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| World Language: ASL/Spanish | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Elective(s) | | | |

| Grade 11 Courses | Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Total Semester Credits |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bible: Apologetics or Advanced Biblical Studies | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Lang. Arts: Brit Literature, AP English, or PSEO English | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Math: Higher Math | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Science: Higher Science | .5 | | .5 |
| Social Studies: World History | | .5 | .5 |
| Social Sciences: Elective | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Elective(s) | | | |

| Grade 12 Courses | Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Total Semester Credits |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bible: Apologetics or Advanced Biblical Studies | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Business: Personal Finance | | .5 | .5 |
| Lang. Arts: World Literature, AP English, or PSEO English | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Math: Higher Math | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Science: Higher Science | .5 | .5 | 1 |
| Social Studies: U.S. Government | .5 | | .5 |
| Elective(s) | | | |

¹ Algebra 1 does not count as one of the three math credits. Algebra 2 and Geometry are required credits.

² Science must include Biology and Chemistry.

³ Social Sciences must include American History, Geography, World History, Economics, and Government.

* For those students pursuing the AA Degree Program, a full two-year course outline will be provided.

Fee-Based Classes & Phy. Ed. Uniforms

All fees for fee-based classes are billed through Facts. Prices for fee-based courses are listed in the course descriptions.

For students in Physical Education, clothing will be available for purchase through Branding Wearhouse (maranatha.brandingwearhouse.com). Please note the expectation for all Physical Education Classes is that students must be dressed in MCA Physical Education attire, including a Maranatha gym performance T-shirt, athletic bottoms, and athletic shoes. The student's adherence to the uniform will be part of their participation grade. Students who do not have the required clothing will lose participation points.

Students may wear black, dark blue, or grey athletic pants (no yoga-type pants) with red or white trim (no other colors). Clothing may be obtained independent of the school clothing store.

College Entrance Requirements

We recommend that students contact the admissions office of their chosen college to determine particular entrance requirements; the College and Career Counseling team can assist with this. The following are guidelines only.

BASIC COLLEGE ENTRANCE (STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES)

- Language Arts 4 credits
- Math* 3 credits (must include Algebra 2 and Geometry)
- Science 3 credits (must include Biology and Chemistry)
- Social Studies 3 credits (must include one year of American History)
- World Language 2 credits of the same language

* The U of M has declared that four years of math will be required of all applicants.

SELECTIVE COLLEGE ENTRANCE (PRIVATE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES)

- Language Arts 4 credits
- Math 4 credits (must include Algebra 2 and Geometry)
- Science 3–4 credits (must include Biology, Chemistry, and Physics)
- Social Studies 3–4 credits (must include American History)
- World Language 3 credits of the same language

STUDENTS PURSUING ENGINEERING OR PRE-MED

Students pursuing engineering or pre-med must advance to Calculus by senior year, which may include taking two math classes concurrently. It is also necessary to take Physics and AP Chemistry if pursuing engineering.

Schedule Changes

At the beginning of the school year, students will have five school days to request changes to schedules. Students will have three days to request a schedule change before the start of the second semester. All changes must be made with the College and Career Counseling team.

Class Withdrawal Policy

After the add/drop period, all requests to drop a class will be considered a Withdrawal. In the case of a Withdrawal, students will receive a grade of “W” on transcripts for Withdrawn. The “W” will not be calculated into GPAs. A student must submit an appeal with the Upper School Administration to withdraw from a class.

After the eleventh week, within a semester, a student withdrawing from a class shall receive a grade of “F”. The eleventh week is defined as two weeks after the first or third-quarter reporting period.

School Year/Marking System

MCA operates on a semester system. The school year consists of two semesters, each approximately eighteen weeks, with quarterly marking periods. Many courses are offered for only one semester, while others, such as math, English, most sciences, Bible, and world language, are year-long courses. At the conclusion of a quarter/semester, report cards are uploaded and available for private use in FACTS Family Portal. The grades issued as semester grades are entered on the student’s official school transcript. Grade-point averages are based on final grades.

Grade Point Average (GPA) & Weighting of Classes

Grade Point Averages (GPA) used by educational institutions rank student academic performance to determine admission to a school and award high academic achievement (honor roll, National Honor Society, academic lettering, etc.) GPAs are calculated by adding the total points for all classes and dividing by the total number of courses taken (All pass/no pass classes are not calculated into the GPA). To see the value of each percentage score/grade, refer to the MCA Grading Scale. MCA offers several college-level classes through Advanced Placement (AP) and Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO), which receive more value in calculating the cumulative GPA. These weighted values are represented on the MCA Grading Scale chart.

| GRADE | PERCENTAGE | GPA VALUE | WEIGHTED GPA VALUE |
|-------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
| A | 92.5 – 100 | 4.0 | 5.0 |
| A- | 89.5 – 92.49 | 3.67 | 4.67 |
| B+ | 86.5 – 89.49 | 3.33 | 4.33 |
| B | 82.5 – 86.49 | 3.0 | 4.0 |
| B- | 79.5 – 82.49 | 2.67 | 3.67 |
| C+ | 76.5 – 79.49 | 2.33 | 3.33 |
| C | 72.5 – 76.49 | 2.0 | 3.0 |
| C- | 69.5 – 72.49 | 1.67 | 2.67 |
| D+ | 66.5 – 69.49 | 1.33 | 2.33 |
| D | 62.5 – 66.49 | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| D- | 59.5 – 62.49 | 0.67 | 1.67 |
| F | 00.0 – 59.49 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

In a year-long course (mathematics, English, most sciences, Bible, Spanish, etc.), a first-semester failing grade (F) may be recovered with a compensating second-semester grade. The semester grade and averaged final grade will appear on the student’s transcript.

Honor Recognition

Academic Honor Roll recognition is awarded each quarter. Students receiving a “D” or “F” in any course become ineligible for the honor roll during that quarter. Honor Roll is marked on a student’s report card each quarter. There are three honors categories for High School students:

- Principal’s Club: grade point average of 3.8–4.0 or above
- High Honor Roll: grade point average of 3.5–3.79
- Honor Roll: grade point average of 3.0–3.49

Academic Lettering

Students may annually letter in Grades 9–12 in the area of academics by achieving an average GPA of 4.0 for the current year or 3.8 or higher for two or more years during their High School experience.

Academic letter consideration excludes transfer grades and students entering MCA after the school year has begun. Academic letters are awarded at the Spring Awards Program in May. Since the school year is not complete at that point, grade points for the current year are based on the student’s grades obtained through the end of the third quarter.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society (Grades 6–9) is the nation’s premier organization recognizing outstanding middle-level students. More than just an honor roll, NJHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since 1929. Students must have a 3.5+ GPA and demonstrate strength in service, leadership, and character.

National Honor Society

Tenth through twelfth-grade students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have attended MCA for at least one semester are eligible for membership in the National Honor Society. Additional qualifications for acceptance are leadership, service, and character. Information about the selection process is distributed to qualified students in the fall. Students are selected for membership by a faculty council and are inducted during a formal ceremony in the fall.

Requirements for Valedictorian & Salutatorian

Valedictorian and salutatorian determinations are based on the cumulative GPA of seven semesters of work and consistent Christian citizenship. To be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must attend MCA in Grades 9 through 12. Only MCA grades will be considered. If multiple students have the same cumulative GPA, quality points will be considered. Quality points are the percentage grade students are given for classes. These points are totaled and divided by the total number of classes. This number will be the student’s quality point average. The grade percentage for student interns is not included. Valedictorian and salutatorian will be determined from this quality point average. The determinations are made at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

Academic Intervention

Academic intervention is designed to hold students accountable for missing assignments, tests, and poor academic performance to see students achieve their full academic potential. Academic interventions take place in coordination with each specific teacher's help sessions.

Teachers may require students to attend mandatory tutoring session as a result of one or more of the following:

- The student has two late assignments in one class OR
- The student is two class periods late on an assignment OR
- The student has an incomplete test OR
- The student demonstrates poor/failing grades or generally poor academic performance (based on teacher discretion)

Students may be placed on an academic tracking plan with their advisor if the issues continue.

Summer School

Students who fail a course during the school year may be required to make up for the resulting loss of credit by satisfactorily completing a maximum of one credit during summer school. Additional makeup credit must have prior approval from the College and Career Counseling office.

Credits received in MCA's optional summer semester academic enrichment classes or other outside organizations are not accepted in place of MCA required courses unless Upper School Administration has given previous clearance. See the Parent and Student Manual for more details on summer school.

Learning Support Services

Learning Support Services (LSS) is committed to identifying and meeting the distinctive educational needs of students through individualized educational programming by partnering with students and teachers.

The following are services provided by LSS:

- Write and manage student academic plans for students needing extra academic support
- Liaison between Osseo and Maranatha for students receiving special education services through the Osseo school district
- Assist students needing organizational support
- Special class placement in math for small group or one-on-one instruction based on student's need
- Study Lab includes structured study time with the development of organizational skills
- Dyslexia mini-screening and tutoring
- Outside services by referral for Speech and Language Therapy

College at Maranatha

PSEO

Maranatha continually challenges the status quo and redefines the traditional college-preparatory education, preparing our students for more. More choices, more guidance, and ultimately more success in school and life. The PSEO program on campus allows students to take classes with Bethel University and Hennepin Technical College at no additional charge. Below are details and specific requirements for participation in the program:

- The program is offered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher to participate.
- Students may take up to two online PSEO classes per semester in addition to on-campus PSEO selections.
- There is no guarantee the courses a student chooses will fit within his/her selected college degree program or that those credits will transfer seamlessly to other colleges. However, Bethel University is nationally accredited, and credits are generally transferable. They have developed classes for the PSEO program that have high transferability.
- Students will have a scheduled study hall period to work on any online class.
- Students successfully completing a PSEO class will receive college credit at Bethel University. A 1-2 credit college course will equal .5 High School credit. A 3-4 credit college course will equal 1 High School credit.
- The grade earned in the PSEO course will be calculated as part of the cumulative MCA GPA based on the weighted GPA value for college courses.
- Bethel University classes' start and end dates do not coincide with the MCA academic calendar. Students will be required to begin the course outside of school time and fulfill all deadlines set by Bethel. Similarly, the PSEO grading period will align with the college's academic calendar. Students that have completed PSEO classes before the end of MCA's academic term will attend a study hall for that class period(s).
- Students will be required to show MCA faculty academic progress in any PSEO class.
- Transfer students who were unable to earn PSEO credits at their previous school will need to appeal to the College and Career Counseling team before being allowed to take PSEO classes.

ON CAMPUS PSEO

Maranatha has partnered with Bethel University and Hennepin Technical College to provide juniors and seniors the opportunity to attend on campus college classes taught by Bethel University or Hennepin Tech professors. By bringing college classes to Maranatha's campus, students can experience college academics before stepping foot on a college campus.

ONLINE PSEO

In addition to the innovative PSEO courses held on campus, Bethel University and Hennepin Tech offer students online course options to explore beyond our walls. Online courses are set up with a cohort of students enrolled in the class for collaboration opportunities. Students who choose to enroll in online PSEO courses get a study hall period built into schedules for the online course.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Advanced Placement (AP) courses offer sophomores, juniors, and seniors opportunities to earn college credit while in High School. AP courses feature a college-level curriculum and are monitored by the College Board to ensure the syllabi meet the high standards. In May, national exams are administered to AP students. The exams are scored by specially trained college professors and High School AP instructors. A number from 1 to 5 represents the score. Most colleges accept a score of 3 or higher for credit and placement. In addition to the potential for earning college credit, these courses prepare students for the rigors of a college academic experience and expose students to an advanced curriculum for additional challenges. Students wishing to pursue AP classes should contact the College and Career Counseling team for further information.

EARLY COLLEGE COURSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

MCA will pay for one Early College Course (PSEO or edX) per semester for 11th and 12th grade students who have graduated from E.S.L. class. Students receiving scholarships are not automatically eligible, but may petition for special consideration. The Director of International Student Academics must approve all courses.

COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP)

The official study guide from College Board explains CLEP exams as follows; "CLEP exams cover material directly related to specific undergraduate courses taught during a student's first two years in college. The courses may be offered for three, four, six, or eight semester hours in general areas such as mathematics, history, social sciences, English composition, natural sciences, and humanities. Institutions will either grant credit for a specific course based on a satisfactory score on the related exam or in the general area in which a satisfactory score is earned. The credit is equal to the credit awarded to students who successfully complete the course." Further information regarding CLEP exams are available from the College and Career Counseling team; however, it is important to remember the awarding of credits is determined by the receiving school. It is always good to check with the receiving college to establish how CLEP credits are handled.



ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE PROGRAM

MCA's Associate of Arts Degree Program is offered through Bethel University.

- Students earn 60 college credits on Maranatha's campus from Bethel University.
- Bethel Professors come to Maranatha's campus to teach college-level courses.
- As students graduate from High School, they will also graduate with an AA degree from Bethel University that can be transferred to other colleges or universities.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in this program should apply during the spring of their Sophomore year. Requirements for acceptance into the AA program are:

- Bethel application
- Letter of recommendation by MCA faculty may be requested
- One of the following three:
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
 - PSAT score of 1050 or higher
 - ACT Aspire of 426 or higher

AA DEGREE/MCA SCHEDULE

Each college course a student takes will take the place of a High School course in a student's schedule and are implemented into Maranatha's High School schedule. PSEO classes serve as dual enrollment. The classes fulfill both High School and college requirements. Students work closely with their Maranatha Counselor to ensure the high school graduation requirements are met while pursuing the AA Degree. Please see the separate A.A. Handbook for specific information.

TRANSFERABILITY OF CREDIT

The Higher Learning Commission accredits Bethel University. Other colleges and universities recognize credits earned at Bethel. All students in the program are strongly encouraged to seek advice from their Maranatha Counselor and Bethel Student Success Advisor to determine the applicability of the credits to the college or university of choice after high school. The Associate of Arts Degree is designed to fulfill a core curriculum most colleges and universities require for a bachelor's degree program. For that reason, the credits may be transferable and applicable to a student's major degree program.

NCAA Initial Academic Eligibility



Students who want to participate in intercollegiate athletics at Division I or Division II level must abide by NCAA guidelines. Students must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse. Information about the process can be obtained from the College and Career Counseling team. Students should be aware that some courses offered at MCA do not meet NCAA core course guidelines.

To be certified by the NCAA Clearinghouse, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Graduate from high school.
 - a. Students should apply for certification before graduation if you wishing to participate in athletics as a freshman at college. The Clearinghouse will issue a preliminary certification report when all your materials have been submitted. After graduation, the Clearinghouse will review final transcripts to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards.
2. Earn a grade point average of at least 2.3 (on a 4.0 scale) in a core curriculum of at least sixteen academic courses successfully completed during Grades 9 through 12. The following chart shows what the minimum core courses must include:

| CORE UNITS REQUIRED FOR NCAA CERTIFICATION | DIVISION I | DIVISION II |
|---|------------|-------------|
| English Core | 4 years | 3 years |
| Math Core (Algebra 1 or Higher) | 3 years | 2 years |
| Science Core | 2 years | 2 years |
| Social Sciences Core | 2 years | 2 years |
| Additional English, Math, or Science | 1 year | 3 years |
| Additional Core (from any area listed above, Foreign Language, Non-Doctrinal Religion/Philosophy) | 4 years | 4 years |
| Total Core Credits | 16 | 16 |

For more detailed information, visit ncaa.org.

HIGH SCHOOL

Course Descriptions

ART

Art Survey (Sem)

This course is a sampling of a variety of types of art including, photography, drawing, culinary arts, fashion design, book making, and painting. Students are assessed on understanding the different types of art as well as creating these forms.

Available to Grades 9–12
Class Fee: \$20 Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid.

Ceramics I (Sem)

The primary focus ceramics is to learn how to create clay forms with the potter's wheel and through hand-building. Hand-building techniques include pinch, slab, and coil construction. Students will learn glazing and firing techniques to create functional and decorative pottery.

Available to Grades 9–12
Class Fee: \$35 covers clay for pottery, use of pottery tools, glazes, and kiln. Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid in full.

Ceramics II & III (Sem)

This class builds on Ceramics I and provides increased instruction on the wheel and hand-building techniques. Students will develop throwing skills to include cups, trimmed bowls, and containers with lids. Students are given more independence to choose their projects within a given framework.

Available to Grades 9–12
Prerequisites: Ceramics I
Class Fee: \$35 covers clay and use of tools, glazes, and kiln. Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid in full.

Ceramics IV (Sem)

Students will have a more advanced, rigorous throwing schedule and work on multiple pieces. They will also work on improving hand-building techniques. Students will have more independence to choose clay projects within a given framework.

Available to grades 10–12
Prerequisites: Ceramics I and II, teacher recommendation, and academic dean's approval
Art/Lab Fee: \$35 covers clay and use of tools, glazes, and kiln. Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid in full.

Drawing I (Sem)

This class focuses on basic drawing techniques emphasizing line, perspective, and shading to refine specific drawing and design skills. Projects include drawing still lifes, portraits, art history lessons, and weekly drawing assignments. Students will work with

pencil, charcoal, scratch art paper, and ink. Students may repeat this class with new content.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes
Class Fee: \$20 covers pencils, ink, charcoal, chalks, erasers, papers, and blending tools. Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid in full.

Graphic Design 1 (Sem)

This hands-on course teaches students about the principles, processes, and practices of graphic design. Students will develop their creative thinking and learn how to solve visual problems that persuade, inform, entertain, and engage the world around them. Utilizing professional design software, students will create posters, logos, mobile apps, and more to develop a portfolio of work by the end of the semester.

Available to Grades: 9–12
Homework: 30–60 minutes

Fundamentals of Architecture (Sem)

Students in this hands-on project-based course will learn from a professional architect. They will learn about the practice and profession of architecture and use Revit, an architectural software.

Available to Grades: 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Painting (Sem)

This course introduces the complexities of color and basic painting techniques. Instruction will include tempera, acrylic, watercolor, and oil paints. The course contains lessons on color theory and painting throughout history. Students may repeat this class with new content.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes
Class Fee: \$30 covers paints, canvases, and use of brushes. Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid in full.

Mobile Photography (Sem)

This course will immerse students in a basic understanding of digital and mobile photography. Students will develop the ability to creatively tell a story through an image while also gaining life experience. Students will complete an entire photography portfolio at the end of the semester.

Available to Grades: 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Studio Art (Yr)

This course is for the advanced art student developing a portfolio. Individual themes and mediums will be determined by the student and teacher. Each student,

their parents, and the teacher must sign a contract. Students must also prepare work for the senior show in the spring. Additional time, meetings, and work will be required for the event.

Available to Grade 12

Prerequisites: Four MCA art classes and/or teacher/dean of academics approval

Homework: Portfolio prep

Class Fee: \$35 with additional cost depending on course of study. Class credit will not be assigned until fees are paid in full.

Three-Dimensional Design — 3-D (Sem)

This course introduces students to various three-dimensional sculptures, focusing on construction, carving, modeling, and relief. This class emphasizes the Elements and Principles of Design throughout three-dimensional media. The students may create projects using wire, paper mâché, clay, wood, and soapstone. This course also contains lessons on sculpture throughout art history, with a possible field trip to the Walker Art Center's Sculpture Garden.

Available to Grades 9–12

Class Fee: \$30 Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid.

Two-Dimensional Design — 2-D (Sem)

This course introduces students to various two-dimensional media, including drawing, printmaking, and painting. This class emphasizes the Elements and Principles of Design throughout two-dimensional media in creating and analyzing art.

Available to Grades 9–12

Class Fee: \$30 Class credit will not be assigned until fee is paid.

PSEO Reading & Responding to the Arts (Sem)

Cultivation of critical reading and writing skills through examination of artistic “texts” from a variety of genres: literature, drama, cinema, music, or the visual arts. Discernment of rich dimensions of the texts— technique, genre, social-historical context— and reflect on their spiritual significance.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO program

PSEO ARTS2050 Introduction to Art (Sem)

This course provides a basis for understanding the visual arts from the perspective of the artist's creative process and the viewer's creative participation. Students will explore how form and meaning in art are shaped by many influences. A museum visit is part of the regular class schedule.

Available to Grades 10–12

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Hennepin Tech's PSEO program

BIBLE

Intro to the Bible (Yr)

Introduction to the Bible is for students who have little or no background in the Bible. The class provides an overview of the Bible, including the books and

groupings of the old and new testaments, key events, characters, and stories. We examine the fundamental questions such as who is God, who is Jesus, and why are we here. The goal is to present the biblical worldview to students and give them background information needed for subsequent Bible courses.

Available to Grades 9–12

Homework: 0–60 minutes

Service Hours: 35

Prerequisite: Administration approval

Intro to World View (Yr)

1 Peter 3:15 commands believers to be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in them. This is a skill few Christians possess. This course will address many common questions Christians are asked by unbelievers, cover fundamental Christian doctrine, the inspiration and accuracy of the Bible, how to witness effectively, creation vs. evolution, Christian response to suffering, and miracles. Selected readings by C.S. Lewis, Bonhoeffer, Geisler, and Zacharias will be used. The Worldview course contains units on Basic Concepts, Secularism, Islam, Theology, and New Spirituality. These units will help students clarify their belief system and empower them to effectively share it with others (evangelism). There will be ample opportunity for discussion.

Available to Grades 9–10

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Service Hours: 35

Advanced Biblical Studies (Yr)

The Bible is the Christian standard for faith and doctrine. Principles taught in the Bible are to apply to everyday life. However, it is difficult to apply the Scriptures if not understood as God intended them. This course is an intermediate class in studying, interpreting, and applying the Bible. Students will study selected books of the Scriptures. There will also be some topical studies. Important principles of Hermeneutics will be used while studying the Word of God. The student will learn to do basic Bible research with standard theological reference books and online resources. At the end of this course, the student will be able to study most books and passages in the Bible and reach accurate interpretations, building a greater interest and confidence in the Bible that will carry over into adult life.

Available to Grades 11–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Service Hours: 35

Ministry 101 (Sem)

Ministry 101 is a glimpse into the real world of vocational ministry. In this course, the curtains are pulled back and highlights what church ministry is really like. Discussions about the importance of vision and leadership in ministry and practice the art of preaching and teaching.

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Isreal Course I (Sem)

Zechariah 2:8 declares Israel and the Jewish people are the apple of God's eye. This course is an in-depth introduction into the history of the Jewish people and the land of Israel from ancient to modern times. Experience the multi-faceted culture and values, archeology, the Jewish people's connection to their covenant land of Israel, and Israel's role as "a light unto the nations" according to Isaiah 49:6. Discover Israel's decades of innovation, entrepreneurship, and international humanitarian aid that have impacted almost every nation. This course will equip students in Jewish-Christian relations, and provide opportunities to engage within our local Jewish community.

Homework: 0–30 minutes
Service hours are available

Power of Story (Sem)

Does the Bible seem really old, out of date, or unrelatable to you? In "The Power of Story," we'll see how the Bible is filled with wonderful stories of ordinary people being used and changed by God. This class will show see how the Bible is as relevant and helpful today as when it was written. Each week students study one story in the Bible in-depth and determine what it meant to its original audience and what it can mean for today. Then in groups, we'll retell and recreate the story with a modern twist using various artistic forms. We will make the ancient Biblical stories come to life with a 21st-century flavor!

Homework: 0–30 minutes

PSEO Bible in Real Life (Sem)

Exploration of connections between key portions of the Bible and challenges faced by students in their own lives. Students trace the journey of God's people from Abraham and Sarah through the New Testament Church, tracing God's self-disclosure through biblical cultures and their genres of writing.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Spiritual Quest (Sem)

An exploration of spirituality from a Christian perspective in which students identify the spiritual influences in their lives, explore spiritual disciplines, evaluate the impacts of Christian spirituality on their personal lives, and set goals of personal spiritual development.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

BUSINESS

Accounting I (Sem)

This basic course provides a thorough background in accounting principles and applications used to operate a sole proprietorship, serves as a foundation for employment in office jobs, and prepares students

for college business coursework. Students will read, understand, and create financial statements using an interactive companion website. The course requires a calculator.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–15 minutes

Accounting II (Sem)

This class builds on the Accounting I course principles and applications used to operate a sole proprietorship service business. Students will examine a complete accounting cycle for a merchandising business organized as a corporation. Students will understand the conceptual framework, structure, and accounting practices of organizing a business as a corporation. All accounting concepts and procedures are described within the context of the accounting cycle. Students will learn how each contributes to the overall financial picture of the corporation. Students will use a companion website with software to create, use, and understand financial statements.

Available to Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: Accounting I
Homework: 0–15 minutes

Entrepreneurship (Sem)

Concepts taught in this course will give students a significant head start when entering business classes at the university level. Over a semester, students will design, develop and launch a small business. Daily lessons learned in class are immediately applied to businesses. Students are given the resources to understand the basics of product design, pricing, marketing and sales, financial reporting, community stewardship, and implement those concepts to ensure deep understanding and retention. The goal of the curriculum allows students to tangibly see how they can simplify a seemingly complex pursuit into easily manageable pieces and build confidence through daily progress towards a goal. Students will develop a business plan using the Business Model Canvas by Strategyzer. Students learn the basics of starting a small business and what the Bible says about financial stewardship, business ethics, and the Christian view of work.

Prerequisite: Ability to drive self is helpful
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Investing 101 (Sem)

What would you do with \$100,000? Using "The Stock Market Game," students will have fun while learning and exploring the fundamentals of investing, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. Working collaboratively in teams, students will build and manage a virtual investment portfolio of \$100,000 using today's real-world stock market exchange. Students will learn the fundamentals of investing while analyzing, making decisions, exploring their choices' consequences, and seeking new ways to strategize for success. Students will examine the fundamentals of investing and personal finance and discover content and practice skills in math,

economics, and college and career readiness.

Available to Grades 9–11
Homework: 0–15 minutes

Mustang Enterprises (Yr)

Students in this course are part of a student-led business. Students practice complex communication, design, and teamwork to operate a company from the STE(A)M Lab. Students hold different positions within the organization. Students must apply, interview, and get accepted into this unique program. Students who have enjoyed design & modeling or entrepreneurship courses will find this course engaging and interesting. There is no guarantee of acceptance into this student-run design firm. We are looking for students who want to be a part of a team and have interest or experience in the following areas: design and engineering, CAD, business and social media marketing, and problem-solving.

Available to Grades 11–12
Application and Interview with Advisor

Personal Finance (Sem)

When used poorly, money can be a source of anxiety and lead to financial problems. God's desire is for us to be good stewards of all He provides. When used wisely, money can be a tool to help achieve goals and dreams while providing for the family and doing God's work. In this hands-on financial planning program, students learn to take immediate control of their finances. Topics include financial planning, goal setting, personal budgets, smart shopping, saving and investing, using credit and credit cards wisely, the effects of debt, and keeping car insurance costs down. With knowledge and skill from this course, students can be in control of their finances and on their way to a lifetime of financial capability and healthy financial management.

Available to Grades 10–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

TED-Ed Student Talks (Sem)

This course is designed to identify your passions, choose your big ideas, and start talking. Throughout this course, students will work together to discuss and celebrate creative ideas, all leading to the culmination of their own TED-style talk. Students may watch and debate TED talks during these gatherings, explore and share their own ideas, and collaborate and connect with each other's ideas. This program will bring students together to discover, develop, and present how ideas can change the world.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

PSEO BUSN1000 Intro to Business (Online) (Sem)

This is a college-level introductory course in business practices. The course is an overview of the role of business in the American economy and the international community. The course will cover the free enterprise system used in America. The student will look at issues of business and society, as well

as legal, regulatory, and political responsibilities on the part of American business. A short overview of Marketing will also be covered as a part of the course.

Available to Grade 10
Prerequisite: Acceptance into Hennepin Tech's PSEO Program (Career and Technical Education Course)

PSEO Personal Financial Literacy (Sem)

Explores fundamental personal financial management topics. Enables learners to make values-based financial decisions. Uses a variety of tools to evaluate risk and make choices regarding debt management, savings, budgeting, investing, and long-range personal financial planning.

Available to Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

ENGINEERING STUDIES

Computer Science for Innovators (Sem)

Students in this course will learn through the use and practice of an Arduino. Students will work with Arduinos to learn and practice programming. Students program these digital tools to create and invent objects in the physical world.

Available to grades: 10–12
Homework: As needed

Mustang Enterprises (Yr)

Students in this course are part of a student-led business. Students practice complex communication, design, and teamwork to operate a company from the STE(A)M Lab. Students hold different positions within the organization. Students must apply, interview, and get accepted into this unique program. Students who have enjoyed design & modeling or entrepreneurship courses will find this course engaging and interesting. There is no guarantee of acceptance into this student-run design firm. We are looking for students who want to be a part of a team and have interest or experience in the following areas: design and engineering, CAD, business and social media marketing, and problem-solving.

Available to Grades 11–12
Application and Interview with Advisor

PSEO ENGC1250 Solidworks I (Sem)

This course gives students hands-on experience using SOLIDWORKS three-dimensional Parametric CAD software. SOLIDWORKS is a mechanical design software that takes advantage of the familiar Microsoft Windows graphical user interface. The students will use the software to create three-dimensional solid parts and assemblies. The students will also create orthographic projections from the solid geometry. Additive manufacturing may be presented in this course.

Available to Grades 10–12
Prerequisite: Acceptance into Hennepin Tech's PSEO Program (Career and Technical Education Course)

LANGUAGE ARTS

9th Grade English (Yr)

This course is foundational to all other High School coursework. The class will emphasize grammar and sentence structure, vocabulary advancement, the form and development of the five-paragraph essay, and public speaking strategies. This course is also a study of several great books, including an introduction to Shakespeare. Works will include: *The Odyssey*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Pearl*.

Available to Grade 9
Homework: 0–60 minutes

American Literature (Yr)

This course is a survey of American literature from early New England writers to the modern-day. The course will emphasize writing skills such as analysis, synthesis, and critique. Exercises include critical reading, reasoning skills, writing in response to various readings, and writing assignments that incorporate summary, paraphrasing, quotation, and practice in argument and persuasion. The course will include an in-depth discussion of story elements and fiction as well as a review of the following: writing, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and diction. Works will include *Fahrenheit 451*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *The House on Mango Street*.

Available to Grade 10
Homework: 0–60 minutes

British Literature (Yr)

This course contains traces of British literature from the epic *Beowulf* to the present, focusing on how the historical events in England influenced the literature. Prominent British authors of poetry, short stories, essays, and novels will be read. Students will also practice writing mechanics, including grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and word choice. Several British classic novels will be required reading for the class, and a major research paper on a British author's work and life. Works will include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Pride and Prejudice*.

Available to Grades 11
Prerequisites: Summer novel reading assignment
Homework: 0–60 minutes

World Literature (Yr)

This course is a study of selected authors, themes, and trends representing literature outside of the American and British realms. The study will emphasize the modern literature of Continental Europe, South America, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the foundations of literary study through analytical writing and discussion of the texts. The study will target aesthetic, thematic, and cultural concerns dominant in these works of literature. Students will demonstrate analysis, synthesis, and evaluation through writing and discussion. Students will present

their papers orally and lead class discussions. The class also includes a review of basic writing, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, and word choice. Works will include *Les Misérables*, *Night*, *A Doll's House*, *Persepolis*, and *The Alchemist*.

Available to Grades 12
Prerequisites: Summer novel reading assignment
Homework: 0–60 minutes

AP Language and Composition (Yr) (22–23)

This college-level language arts course is designed for college-bound juniors and seniors to develop the specific writing skills needed for college. The emphasis will be on rhetorical analysis of mostly nonfiction texts. The students will read several nonfiction works, including speeches, books, and essays, analyzing linguistic force and expository value. There will be continual instruction and practice in developing a personal writing style. The class culminates with the College Board Advanced Placement test. Works will include *Mere Christianity*, *In Cold Blood*, and *Vertigo* (film).

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: 3.5 English GPA, application process, and two summer books from reading list
Homework: 60–120 minutes

HS Speech (Sem)

Students will develop speaking skills for the job market and as community leaders. Speaking effectively and intelligent evaluation create the foundation for each assignment. Students will present impromptu, informative, persuasive, and demonstrative speeches, from casual speaking to compelling communication. This class provides the foundation for junior and senior speeches.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–60 minutes

Argumentation and Debate (Sem)

This elective is designed for upperclassmen to develop speaking and argumentation skills for the job market and as community leaders. Speaking effectively and intelligent evaluation create the foundation for each assignment. Students will participate in several formal and informal debates while exploring the techniques of rhetoric and persuasion. Students will also present impromptu, informative, persuasive, and demonstrative speeches. Lastly, students will analyze and critique several well-known speeches to develop their personal speaking styles. This class provides the foundation for junior and senior speeches.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–60 minutes

Yearbook (Yr)

Students will work to produce the MCA yearbook. Students will learn and use skills in photography, interviewing, writing, editing, desktop publishing, digital imaging, and marketing from the initial phases of theme development to selling and distributing the

books at the end of the year. Students should enter the class with mature writing skills and be familiar with the basics of using a digital camera. This course will require afterschool time in the lab and at events.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Application to advisor

Homework: 0–60 minutes or more prior to yearbook deadlines

English Language Learner (Yr)

The English Language Learner class is for students whose first language is not English. The course provides language support in reading, speaking, listening, and writing. The primary focus is on reading comprehension, building vocabulary, and sentence structure. Students also participate in TOEFL, SAT, and ACT practice lessons.

Homework: 0–60 minutes

PSEO Basic Communication Skills (Sem)

An examination of the fundamentals of the human communication process. Emphasis on communication in these areas: interpersonal, small group, public speaking, and computer-mediated. Concentration on how meaning is created, communicated and transformed within personal, professional, and global contexts.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Reading & Responding to the Arts (Sem)

Cultivation of critical reading and writing skills through examination of artistic “texts” from a variety of genres: literature, drama, cinema, music, or the visual arts. Discernment of rich dimensions of the texts— technique, genre, social-historical context— and reflect on their spiritual significance.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Successful Writing (Sem)

Development of skills necessary for expressing oneself competently through writing. Emphasis is on the writing process, critical thinking, sensitivity to audience, core documentation skills and responsibilities, and revision (with peer and instructor feedback).

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Academic Research Writing (Sem)

Development of core academic skills in research and writing. Critical evaluation of rhetorical persuasion, forming and answering research questions, testing thesis through consultation of scholarly sources, and formal documentation of research sources.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program, completion of Successful Writing

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 2 (Yr)

The primary ideas in this course are math systems, learning to solve types of open sentences, the concept of function, and the study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and conic sections. This class is essential for college entrance and careers in math, science, and certain technical fields.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Homework: 30–75 minutes

Integrated Algebra (Yr)

The primary ideas in this course are math systems, learning to solve types of open sentences, the concept of function, and the study of polynomials, rational equations, and exponential equations. This class is for the student that has completed Algebra 1 but needs more time before Algebra 2.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Homework: 30–75 minutes

Geometry (Yr)

This course will introduce basic geometric concepts such as point, line, plane, and congruence, followed by instruction on postulates and theorems in a formal proof setting, with particular attention devoted to critical-thinking skills. Students will explore various polygons and its properties through creative activities and projects.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Homework: 30 minutes

Pre-Calculus (Yr)

This course is an introductory study of the real number system, functions, rational root theorem, complex number system, analytic geometry with conic section emphasis, systems of equations and inequalities, and a study of sequences. This course is designed for college-bound students and/or those pursuing careers in math-related fields.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Algebra II, Geometry

Homework: 30–45 minutes

Probability and Statistics (Yr)

This course will make use of statistical methods in the real world. Emphasis will be on studying data from a statistical point of view and elementary probability theory. Students will utilize statistics to draw conclusions in real-life studies and calculate probabilities through various experiments and projects.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Two years of high school math

Homework: 30 minutes

AP Calculus AB (Sem)

AP Calculus AB is an introductory college-level calculus

course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally and using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change, limits, and the analysis of functions

Available to Grade 11–12

Prerequisites: Cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus

PSEO MATH124 Calculus 1 (Online) (Sem)

A mathematical foundation for future college courses and beyond. Introduces the concepts and methods of the derivative and the integral, demonstrating how they are applied in real-world modeling situations. Topics are examined graphically, numerically, and algebraically, including using a symbolic computer algebra system to aid understanding.

Available to Grade 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO program

MUSIC

Chapel Band (Sem)

A small group of singers, instrumentalists, and audio/video technicians will collaborate on and lead weekly contemporary chapel worship for MCA's upper school. Principles of worship leading, the scriptural basis for worship, and team building will be discussed. Worship leaders are expected to display godly character in all areas of life and work to build and maintain a strong bond of unity among band members as leaders of the student body, modeling excellence in all areas. Chapel band members are expected to maintain a C average in each of their classes and may not be on any level of behavior probation. Falling below a C average in any class or being placed on behavior probation may be grounds for suspension from playing in chapels or removal from the chapel band. There may be extracurricular performance opportunities.

Available to Grades 10–12

Prerequisites: Spring audition and one semester of MCA attendance; students must provide their own electric, bass, and/or acoustic guitars and must have one year of HS Band/Choir or take it simultaneously with Chapel Band. 9th-grade students who have one semester of MS Intro to Chapel Band may audition in the spring.

Homework: 30–60 minutes/week

High School Band (Sem)

Students will continue developing performance skills in a large-group setting, emphasizing instrumental performance techniques and development of a good overall band sound. Students are expected to participate in performances throughout the year, including pep band for Fall Fest, Homecoming, Spring Splash, upper school Christmas, and Experience Maranatha concerts.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: 2 years school band participation

Homework: Practice as needed

High School Jazz Band (Sem)

Jazz band allows students to experience and learn about the basics of jazz music through performance. Students will play a wide variety of genres (blues, swing, funk, rock, Latin) and perform for many events, including end-of-the-quarter pancake breakfasts, the MCA Christmas Concert, and Experience Maranatha! Jazz band is open to all band instrumentalists, as well as piano, guitar, bass guitar, and drums. Placement is by audition, but no previous jazz experience is required.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Audition and must be a member of either the High School Band or Chapel Band.

Fees: \$35 and students must provide their own bass, electric, or acoustic guitar and basic equipment needed for their instruments

High School Choir (Sem)

Students will develop sight-reading and vocal performance skills while preparing various concert pieces. As students learn music theory, musical terms, singing techniques they will also learn to sing in three- and four-part harmony. Performances include Homecoming, Upper School Christmas concert, and Experience Maranatha in May. There may be extracurricular performance opportunities.

Wardrobe requirements: Girls must purchase a dress from our choir vendor (approximately \$75) and wear black dress shoes. Boys must purchase a white shirt, black suit, black socks, black tie, and dress shoes for performances.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Audition in August/January. Must be able to sing independently on pitch

Homework: Practice as needed

Fees: Wardrobe costs

PHYS. ED./HEALTH

Contemporary Health (Sem)

This course introduces a variety of topics based on nutrition and wellness. Different healthcare models will be explored and how they work. Students will study mental and sexual health in a Christ-centered context. Students will be introduced to and provided alternative foods that have higher vitamin and mineral contents than processed foods.

Available to Grade 9–12

Homework: 30–60 minutes

Fee: \$25

Fitness (Sem)

This class is designed to be fun while improving a student's fitness level and physical health, whether a beginner or a well-trained athlete. Our focus will be on toning and strengthening major muscle groups

emphasizing core strength using proper warm-up and cool-down periods with each workout. Various equipment will be used: dumbbells, ankle weights, steps, body balls, balance equipment, rubberized resistance, and weighted body bars. All fitness levels and body shapes are welcome. All fitness levels and body shapes are welcome.

Available to Grades 9–12 (must be at least 15 years old)

Weightlifting (Sem)

Students learn the fundamentals of weight training in MCA's brand-new weight room!

Available to Grades 9–12 (must be at least 15 years old)

PSEO Physical Wellness (Sem)

Synthesis of current evidence-based knowledge empowering healthy decisions around nutrition, fitness, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Identification of patterns of stress reduction through spiritual and physical health. Explanation of biological processes in the body. Analysis of the influence of culture, media, technology, and other factors on health.

Available to Grades 10–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Group Fitness (Sem)

Development of cardiovascular fitness through aerobic rhythms and exercise. Workout includes varied aerobic conditioning, minimal strength training, and stretching.

Available to Grades 10–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

SCIENCE

Biology (Yr)

This course covers the scientific method, ecology, biochemistry, cellular reproduction, genetics, a survey of the six kingdoms, and looks at theories of creation and evolution. This course prepares students for college and all future careers by developing students' abilities to work with others and think critically to solve real-world problems. Coursework includes note-taking, lab investigations, field studies, dissection, observations, and microscopes.

Available to Grades 9–10

Homework: 30–45 minutes

Chemistry (Yr)

This course examines matter's physical and chemical properties, including atomic theory and the periodic table. Students will work with formulas, equations, and quantitative calculations involving significant figures. This course prepares students for college and all future careers by developing students' abilities to work with others and think critically to solve real-world problems. Lab work includes qualitative and quantitative analysis.

Available to Grades 10–12

Prerequisites: Biology and Algebra 1

Homework: 30–45 minutes

Anatomy and Physiology (Yr)

This course introduces students to the organization of the body on chemical, cellular, tissue, and system levels. Students identify and integrate anatomical structures and functions. Labs in this class include hands-on activities and dissections. This course is encouraged for preparation in medical-based career interests.

Available to Grades 9–12

Homework: 30–60 minutes

Astronomy (Yr)

This course aims to enable students to develop and apply knowledge of the universe and compare the conditions, properties, and motions of bodies in space. This course introduces composition and structure of the universe. The content includes, but is not limited to, historical astronomy, astronomical instruments, the celestial sphere, the solar system, the earth as a system in space, the earth/moon system, the sun as a star, stars, the universe, and its origins.

Available to Grades 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Biomedical Innovations (Yr)

Biomedical Innovations is a hands-on class with students designing biomedical devices from day one! This project-based learning course includes projects such as femur bone repair, prosthetic creation, surgeries, and much more! Students interested in the medical field, engineering, or just enjoy working with your hands, then this class is for you! Every project starts with research and brainstorming. Then it's time to develop models and prototypes. Finally, building the products and testing to see it's effectiveness.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: General Biology

Homework: 60 minutes

Physics (Yr)

This course covers motion, forces, sound and light, heat, electricity, magnetism, and related topics and comprises lectures, discussion, lab, and evaluation. Students are expected to compute algebraic and numerical problems.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry

Homework: 30–45 minutes

AP Biology (Yr)

This college-level course covers cellular chemistry, energy, and genetics, including the function and structure of DNA and RNA. Evolutionary theories will be studied, along with evidence supporting evolution and its possible mechanisms. A Christian viewpoint of evolution is also presented. The relationship of structure to function will be a significant theme common with all organisms studied. Students will also study population dynamics in communities and

ecosystems and discuss global issues. Lab work and field studies will be a significant part of this course. This class culminates with the College Board Advanced Placement test in May.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, and 3.2 GPA
Homework: 60 minutes

AP Chemistry (Yr)

This course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Algebra II and HS Chemistry
Homework: 60 minutes

AP Physics (Yr)

AP Physics 1 surveys the first-semester of college physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (rotational dynamics and angular momentum), work energy, mechanical waves, and sound. This course includes lab work and culminates with the College Board Advanced Placement test in May.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Algebra II minimum grade of 85%
Homework: 60 minutes

PSEO NASC 275 Environmental Studies (Online) (Sem)

Examination of how science, engineering, and economics work together to address and solve environmental problems. Exploration of the importance of the scientific method related to the environment, conservation of resources, and energy. Evaluation of case studies will develop a deeper sense of stewardship of our planet.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO program,

PSEO General Chemistry (Sem)

Chemical properties and principles, structure and reactivity, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, atomic and molecular theory, and state of matter. Laboratory includes application of these principles in exploring chemical properties and reactivity and computer data collection and modeling.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO program, two years of High School Math and High School Chemistry

PSEO Introduction to Healthcare (Sem)

An introduction to various health professions and the healthcare system in the United States. Emphasis on understanding the healthcare system, current issues in healthcare, and healthcare career paths. Development of healthcare literacy and navigating healthcare culture. Students examine education,

training, licensure, and/or certification requirements for potential careers.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO BIOL120 Intro to Molecular and Cellular Biology (Online) (Sem)

An introduction to cellular and subcellular aspects of living organisms. Includes a study of basic chemistry, biological molecules, cells, enzymes, metabolism, classical genetics, and molecular genetics. Corequisites: Registration in BIOL120L is required.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO BIOL120L Intro to Molecular and Cellular Biology (Online) (Sem)

Laboratory experience accompanying Corequisites: Registration in BIOL120 is required.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

SOCIAL SCIENCES

American History (Yr)

This course will guide students from the late nineteenth century through the early 21st century. Students will examine the political, economic, social, and cultural development of the United States from the end of the Reconstruction Era to the present times. Units will be divided into time periods and emphasize themes, including America's economic growth, foreign policy, and our national identity. The desired outcome of this course is for students to develop an understanding of the cause-and-effect relationship between past and present events, recognize patterns of interactions, and understand the impact of events on the United States in an interconnected world.

Available to Grade 10–12

Homework: 0–45 minutes

Ancient World History (Sem)

This course extensively studies early civilizations from the Americas, Asia, Africa, and Europe. This course explores why and where early civilizations developed. It will compare the political and economic systems of civilization and examine the culture, religion, and technological advances of ancient civilizations. Through this course, students will be able to answer the question: What type of legacy did ancient civilizations leave behind?

Available to Grade 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Economics (Sem)

This is an introductory course providing students with an understanding of how society organizes its limited resources to satisfy unlimited wants. Students

will develop an economic way of thinking through Christian understanding while relating history and politics to the study of economics. At the end of the semester, students will apply their knowledge with a simulated Shark Tank presentation.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Modern World History (Sem)

The course will focus on the events, conflicts, ideas, and people that helped shape the modern world. Students will examine the political, economic, and social factors that makeup today's world. This class seeks to provide students with a deep understanding of the geo-political world of the 20th century, starting with the fall of monarchies and the ensuing political and industrial revolutions, the world wars of the 20th century, and leading to the contemporary world of today.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Psychology (Sem)

This course serves as an introduction to fundamental psychological theories and theorists. Students will explore a variety of theories on the how and why of human behaviors throughout multiple stages of life to understand better how society functions. Analysis and discussion of these theories will enable each student to become wiser and a more active participant in his/her community.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Sports + Society (Sem)

This course will explore the role that sports play in our world today. We will be exploring sports and its relation to politics, culture, globalization, and more, both in popular sports (like soccer, football, and basketball) and lesser-known sports such as fishing and skateboarding. Along the way, students will be able to analyze sports in new ways, using the critical thinking and analysis skills developed in high school. Students will never watch or think about sports in the same way again.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

World Geography (Sem)

This course will cover the physical, human, and economic geography of the countries of the world, with emphasis on countries, capitals, major landforms, cultural and political issues. The socioeconomic repercussions of changing governments and the development of new countries will also be examined.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

U.S. Government (Sem)

The focus of this class is to engage students in participating in the political process. Emphasis is placed on the historical development of government

and political systems, the importance of the rule of law, the United States Constitution; federal, state, and local government structure; and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Students will actively investigate local, state, and national issues, read and participate in discussions, and develop informed opinions using various writing forms.

Available to Grades 10–12
Homework: 60–90 minutes

AP U.S. History (Yr)

Advanced Placement United States History is a rigorous and intensive course equivalent to an introductory freshman college course in American History. The course begins with the emergence of Colonial America (1400s) and continues through the first decade of the 21st century. Using the textbook, primary source documents, and current events, students learn about the various political, social, religious, and economic developments that have shaped and continue to shape the United States. Essay writing and critical thinking are emphasized as integral ways of understanding how the past relates to the present and future. The content and structure of this course will serve in part to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam in May.

Available to Grades 10–12
Homework: 45–90 minutes

PSEO Introduction to Psychology (Sem)

Methods, theories, and principal findings of psychological investigation.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Personal Mission and Leadership Development (Sem)

Development of an understanding of personal mission and a study of the application of that mission to leadership. Emphasis is on identifying personal talents and gifts and developing leadership goals for future roles.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO POLS100 American Government and Politics (Online) (Sem)

Structure and workings of major parts of the United States national government, such as the Constitution, the presidency, Congress, the courts, the electoral process, and others. How these institutions help Americans deal with significant current issues.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO HIST 250 U.S. History in Dialogue (Sem)

With the Present Examination of selected historical events using both primary and secondary sources. Development of connections between historical events with larger social, economic, and political

trends and developments. Recognition of multiple perspectives when investigating historical questions as well as the influence these viewpoints have on both current developments and future challenges. Consideration of personal faith while exploring history's significance.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

PSEO Western Culture (Sem)

Seeks to help students understand the key movements that have influenced the lives of people in Europe and North America up through the enlightenment. Students explore with insight and empathy the writings and lives of those who have influenced the course of world societies. Prepares students to appreciate and evaluate the diverse ways in which Christians have interacted with Western culture by shaping, absorbing, and criticizing the culture of the West.

Available to Grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Acceptance into Bethel's PSEO Program

TECHNOLOGY

Video Editing (Sem)

Video Editing takes so many forms. Perhaps you're trying to tell a story, or putting together a highlight reel of gameplay footage - Regardless of what the end product of the video will be, editing helps play a huge role in how people engage with the video! Whether using an app on a phone or a more substantial program like Adobe Premiere, students will learn some of the fundamentals of video editing and how to create a really cool and engaging video.

Available to grades 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes per class period

Vlogging and Marketing (Sem)

In a society inundated by media and technology, it is becoming increasingly valuable to know how to successfully navigate the myriad of online influences presented daily. Even more important may be the idea of creating original content ourselves. This class will explore the concepts of social media, vlogging, and marketing. This course will provide some training in digital storytelling and the tenets of marketing, brand content, and overall professionalism and provide insight on influencers on social media. Students will create original content for various social media platforms for personal and professional use.

Available to grades 9–12

Homework: 0–60 minutes per class period

THEATER

Acting (Sem)

Students practice stage skills while becoming increasingly comfortable performing and presenting

ideas to an audience. Students will experiment with various acting exercises to explore performance ranges. Students will practice movement, improvisation, projection, and characterization using acting games, exercises, monologues, sketches, lessons, and scripts. The goal is for students to experience a learning process that enhances their lives and develops skills used in the world beyond. Theatre work contributes to the development of 21st Century Learning Skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and other life skills that will serve them well in school and beyond. Students participate in a One-Act play at the end of the semester to showcase successfully acquired skills. Students must also be involved in extracurricular MCA productions and attend a theatrical production within the semester (MCA productions do count).

Available to Grades 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Competitive Acting (Yr)

Students practice movement, improvisation, projection, and characterization using acting games, exercises, monologues, sketches, and scripts. The emphasis is on experimentation and overcoming inhibitions that hinder performing abilities. The goal is for students to experience a learning process that enhances their lives and develops skills used in the world beyond. Theatre work contributes to the development of 21st Century Learning Skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, and other life skills that will serve them well in school and beyond. In addition, students participate in a One-Act play competition to showcase the skills successfully acquired. Students must also be involved in extracurricular MCA productions and attend a theatrical production each semester (MCA productions do count).

Available to grades 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Fee: \$25

WORLD LANGUAGE

ASL I (Yr)

This American Sign Language course is designed to introduce students to the basics of this beautiful language and the culture that created it. The environment of the class is designed to be both fun and educational. The course will focus mainly on vocabulary and the mechanics of communicating manually instead of verbally. Some specific areas covered include fingerspelling, numbers, and verbs. The class will also include learning greetings and introductions in ASL and some basic grammar sentences.

Throughout the entire class, students will also learn about the culture of the American Deaf community. Songs and games will be incorporated into the curriculum to help students constantly review and practice what was learned.

Although the instructor is hearing, classes will be taught in ASL and English. The course will end with little or no spoken English by the instructor or students allowing students to use the signs, ask questions, and practice what was learned.

Available to Grade 9 or incoming transfer students
Homework: 0–30 minutes

ASL II (Yr)

ASL II builds on the ASL I class. This American Sign Language course uses the students' vernacular, mechanical, and cultural knowledge to begin developing the sentence structure and grammar of ASL. Students will expand their knowledge and skills of this beautiful language through class discussion, homework assignments, videos, games, and music. Discussions will also delve more deeply into the culture of Deaf Americans.

Although the instructor is hearing, classes will be taught in ASL with little or no spoken English by the instructor or students, which will foster a full-immersion environment for learning.

Prerequisites: ASL I
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Spanish I (Yr)

The introductory course features the integration of language skills with the culture of Spanish-speaking people in a situational context. Course emphasis is on establishing the natural output of the Spanish language using consistent comprehension-based strategies.

Required for incoming transfer students, as needed
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Spanish II (Yr)

This course expands student knowledge of the Spanish language and culture. Course emphasis is on enhancing skills in vocabulary, grammar in context, conversation, and culture. Further focus on developing useful communication and conversational skills in the Spanish language will be incorporated.

Available to Grades 9–12
Prerequisites: Spanish I
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Spanish III (Yr)

This course continues the focus on communication skills. More vocabulary is taught, and additional tenses and its usage and meanings.

Available to Grades 10–12
Prerequisites: Spanish II
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Spanish IV (Yr)

This course continues building grammar skills

and focuses on reading and writing in Spanish. Spanish-speaking cultures are explored and compared with the U.S. A strong focus will be on communication skills in Spanish.

Available to Grades 10–12
Prerequisites: Spanish III
Homework: 0–30 minutes

AP Spanish Language and Culture (Yr)

This course is equivalent to an intermediate-level college course in Spanish. Students will cultivate an understanding of the Spanish language and culture by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations by exploring concepts related to family and communities, personal and public identities, beauty and aesthetics, science and technology, contemporary life, and global challenges.

Available to Grades 11–12
Prerequisites: Spanish III or IV
Homework: 30–60 minutes

ADDITIONAL COURSES

The Art of Spoken Word (Sem)

Art of Spoken Word will instruct and guide students to express passionate views on topics through poetry, lyrics, or even short prose. Spoken word pieces will be composed and shared with or without rhyme and will include elements from hip-hop, Folk music, or even jazz to enhance lyric and rhythmic qualities. Students will engage in activities to improve performance skills like body language, enunciation, and facial expressions.

Available to Grades 9–12
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Cultural Studies (Sem)

This class will attempt to equip students to effectively and thoughtfully deal with topics including culture and identity. Knowing how to engage with the world around us can be challenging, and it is critical to encounter that world with a Christian worldview. This class will include the study of literature (both fiction and non-fiction book excerpts, poetry, etc.), media (film, television, etc.), and current events (TED talks, podcasts, articles, essays, news). Much of the class will be discussion-based; however, students will also have various writing and speaking assignments as well. This class requires a willingness to participate and learn about the world around you and an open mind and maturity.

Available to Grades 9–12
Prerequisites: Parental Consent
Homework: 0–30 minutes

Film Studies I (Sem)

Film Studies is designed to give students an awareness and understanding of motion pictures as a cultural art form. Students will be introduced to the fundamental

aspects of cinema's history, theory, and aesthetics. There will also be an emphasis on developing critical analysis skills and applying a Christian worldview. Students should be aware that films watched in this class do not always fit the general school guidelines for movie viewing for the purpose of becoming critical consumers of popular media from a Christian worldview. This class focuses on studying thematic and dramatic elements, visual design, cinematography, animation, editing, and acting.

Available to Grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Parental permission and an interest in film
Homework: 0–60 minutes

Film Studies II (Sem)

Film Studies is designed to give students an awareness and understanding of motion pictures as a cultural art form. Students will be introduced to the fundamental aspects of cinema's history, theory, and aesthetics. There will also be an emphasis on developing critical analysis skills and applying a Christian worldview. Students should be aware that films watched in this class do not always fit the general school guidelines for movie viewing for the purpose of becoming critical consumers of popular media from a Christian worldview. This class focuses on studying sequels and remakes, director's style, sound effects and dialogue, color, and musical score.

Available to grades 9–12

Prerequisites: Parental permission and an interest in film
Homework: 0–60 minutes per class period

Film Studies III — The Force of Star Wars (Sem)

“The Force is strong with this one.” Since these words were spoken in 1977's A New Hope, Star Wars has become a pervasive, inescapable cultural phenomenon, continuing to grow and influence our society across generations. This elective course will focus on several elements concerning George Lucas's global franchise, including pop culture, filmmaking and the industry, storytelling and cultural myths, and religion and worldview. Required viewings include all films in the Star Wars franchise and other special features, documentaries, and clips/episodes from other Star Wars series. There will also be supplemental readings from various sources as students navigate the world and worldview depicted in Star Wars. While an interest in Star Wars is a must to take this course, no previous knowledge is required.

Available to grades 10–12

Prerequisites: Film Studies I and II, Parental permission and an interest in Star Wars
Homework: 0–60 minutes per class period

Life Shop Class (Sem)

This class combines basic woodworking and general home maintenance and repair. It will also include general tool use and safety. Students can anticipate learning how to make a toolbox, a picture frame, identify systems of a house, hang items on walls, change a light socket or light fixture, patch a wall, change a faucet, and more!

Available to Grades 9–12

Homework: 0–30 minutes

Student Intern (Sem)

This opportunity provides practical work experience for the student. Duties may include working in the coffee house, filing, designing bulletin boards, correcting papers, data entry, teaching small groups, individual tutoring, or assisting in a lower school classroom.

Available to grades 11–12

Prerequisites: Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher **and** Approval from College and Career Counseling Department

Study Hall (Sem)

A limited number of study hall slots will be available to students with one or more AP or PSEO On-Site classes. Students will receive priority based on the following criteria:

1. Students with two or more AP or PSEO classes
2. Students a minimum of one AP or PSEO class and one extra-curricular activity

Study Lab (Sem)

Study Lab is a guided study hall for students needing additional academic support. Students have additional time during school hours for homework, peer tutoring, learn and develop study skills to become successful learners.

Available to Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: Approval from College and Career Counseling department

PSEO Student Success (Sem)

This course is designed to help students identify and develop necessary strategies to enhance life skills and college success. Focused topics will include overcoming barriers to success; study skills, such as time management and note taking; learning styles; college expectations and resources; money management; career exploration; and maintaining physical, mental and emotional health.

Available to Grades 10-12

Prerequisite: Acceptance into Hennepin Tech's PSEO Program



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