

# Curriculum & Planning Guide



**CHRISTIAN LIFE SCHOOLS**

*"Setting a New Standard of Christ-Centered Academic Excellence"*

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This Curriculum and Planning Guide is designed to inform you of Christian Life Schools' academic requirements and expectations. Nothing in this Curriculum and Planning Guide shall be deemed to create contractually or legally enforceable rights. Christian Life specifically retains the discretion to amend, discontinue, or vary the policies or procedures contained in the Curriculum and Planning Guide with or without prior notice.

Revised 09/29/2016

## INTRODUCTION TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

This book is designed to help students and parents together with teachers, guidance counselors, and the administration, plan the best possible program for each Christian Life student. It contains all of the curriculum departments the high school offers, a content description for each course, duration of the course, and the credit value of the course.

The subjects a student selects when planning a program should be based mainly on three considerations:

- A. The ability of the student
- B. The goals and interests of the student
- C. The student's schedule and credit requirements

## SCHOOL STAFF

The guidance staff is available to help you with any and all concerns you have in regard to scheduling your educational program. Please feel free to consult with the faculty, guidance counselors or administration.

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Mr. Duke Ducett, Guidance Counselor (Gr. 6-12) & Academic Dean | 877-5749 Ext. 314 |
| Mr. Michael Hoekstra, MS/HS Principal                          | 877-5749 Ext. 303 |
| Mrs. Kim Moore, Admissions Director & Registrar                | 877-5749 Ext. 305 |

## ACCREDITATION

Christian Life Schools is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education, accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

## NON-DISCRIMINATION

Christian Life Schools admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

## GRADUATION, COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

A Christian Life High School diploma will be granted to all full-time students who have met Christian Life Schools' graduation requirements. To be eligible for graduation, students must earn 28 credits. These credits must be accumulated in grades 9 through 12.

The following **minimum** academic requirements must be successfully completed (and all fees paid) prior to a student earning a Christian Life High School diploma:

- 4.0 credits in Bible
- 4.0 credits in Language Arts
- 2.5 credits in Physical Education
- .5 credit in Health
- 3.0 credits in Mathematics
- 2.0 credits in Science
- 3.0 credits in Social Studies
- 2.0 credits in Humanities
- 7.0 credits in Electives

Each semester of coursework passed earns .5 credit toward the 28 needed for graduation. Coursework in high school must be passed by semester or repeated, either the following school year or in summer school. **All** coursework must be successfully completed to participate in graduation ceremonies. Any outstanding coursework must be completed by September 1 to receive either of the Christian Life High School diplomas.

Students who opt to continue with CLHS on a part-time basis, in 11th or 12th grade, will earn a Christian Life Home Education diploma and will share class rank with our full-time CLHS students.

Christian Life High School students can pursue either a minimum requirement or college preparatory program:

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENT PROGRAM**

|   |           |             |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| BIBLE   | 4 years   | 4.0 credits |
| LANGUAGE ARTS   | 4 years   | 4.0 credits |
| MATHEMATICS   | 3 years   | 3.0 credits |
| SCIENCE   | 2 years   | 2.0 credits |
| SOCIAL STUDIES  | 3 years   | 3.0 credits |
| HUMANITIES (Foreign Language,<br>Visual Arts, or Performing Arts) | 2 years   | 2.0 credits |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH   | 3 years   | 3.0 credits |
| ELECTIVES   | 7 classes | 7.0 credits |

TOTAL CREDITS: 28

### **RECOMMENDED COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM**

|                            |               |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| BIBLE                      | 4 years       | 4.0 credits         |
| LANGUAGE ARTS              | 4 years       | 4.0 credits         |
| *MATHEMATICS               | *3 or 4 years | *3.0 or 4.0 credits |
| *SCIENCE                   | *3 or 4 years | *3.0 or 4.0 credits |
| SOCIAL STUDIES             | 3 years       | 3.0 credits         |
| FOREIGN LANGUAGE           | 2 years       | 2.0 credits         |
| VISUAL/PERFORMING ARTS     | 2 years       | 2.0 credits         |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ HEALTH | 3 years       | 3.0 credits         |
| **ELECTIVE                 | *2 or 3 years | *2.0 or 3.0 credits |

\*4 credits of Math and 3 credits of Science or 3 credits of Math and 4 credits of Science

\*\*Elective requirements will depend on the number of Math and Science credits earned.

TOTAL CREDITS: 28

Students normally take seven (7) academic courses in a school year. The following suggested format will help you choose the right number of courses:

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENT PROGRAM

### 9th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Freshman English
3. Algebra 1
4. Biology
5. PE/Health
6. Foreign Language, Visual or Performing Arts
7. Elective or 9 Social Studies Survey

### 10th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Sophomore English
3. Algebra 2
4. Physical Science
5. US History
6. PE
7. Foreign Language, Visual or Performing Arts

### 11th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Junior English
3. Geometry
4. World History
5. PE or Sport
6. Elective
7. Elective

### 12th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Senior Advanced Composition/Public Speaking
3. Math for Business & Finance
4. American Government/Economics
5. PE or Sport
6. Elective
7. Elective

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## RECOMMENDED COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM

### 9th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Freshman English (H)
3. Algebra 2 (H)
4. Biology (H)
5. PE/Health
6. Foreign Language, Visual or Performing Arts
7. Elective or 9 Social Studies Survey

### 10th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Sophomore English (H)
3. Geometry (H)
4. Physical Science (H)
5. US History (H)
6. PE
7. Foreign Language, Visual or Performing Arts

### 11th GRADE

1. Bible
2. Junior English (H)
3. Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus
4. Chemistry (H)
5. World History (H)
6. PE or Sport
7. Elective

### 12th GRADE

1. Bible
2. 12ENG-Composition /12ENG-Public Speaking (H)
3. AP Calculus
4. Anatomy & Physiology or Physics
5. American Government/Economics
6. PE or Sport
7. Elective

## GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Students in grades 9-12 will be given an academic ranking at the conclusion of each academic semester. This average is based upon the final semester grades in all courses. Students are then “ranked” academically within their own class. A student’s **class rank** is based upon their **cumulative percent average**. Besides running individual semester percentages, each student’s permanent record will reflect a running **GPA** for completed semesters of high school academics based upon a 4.00 scale as shown on the chart that follows.

## WEIGHTED GRADES

Students selecting advanced coursework will have their academic average calculated under a weighted grading system. **“Honors”** sections will receive an additional **5%** added to the final semester grade. An additional ten percent (**10%**) will be added to students’ final semester grades for **“Advanced Honors” Anatomy, Physics, Spanish 4, AP History, AP Calculus, and any college coursework** taken (see page 9). Grades below 70% **do not** receive the additional 5-10%. No home education coursework will receive honors status or weighted credit.

## GRADE SCALE

Below you will find the “academic conversion” chart for our classes based upon percentage (%), letter grade (LG), and grade point average (GPA). The chart on the right is for “weighted coursework” such as advanced science or advanced math classes which are given additional credit due to their level of difficulty.

| Non-Weighted |    |      | Weighted  |    |      |
|--------------|----|------|-----------|----|------|
| %            | LG | GPA  | %         | LG | GPA  |
| 95-100       | A  | 4.0  | 100.1-110 | A+ | 5.0  |
| 90-94.9      | A- | 4.0  | 95-100.0  | A  | 4.0  |
| 87-89.9      | B+ | 3.0  | 90-94.9   | A- | 4.0  |
| 84-86.9      | B  | 3.0  | 87-89.9   | B+ | 3.0  |
| 80-83.9      | B- | 3.0  | 84-86.9   | B  | 3.0  |
| 77-79.9      | C+ | 2.0  | 80-83.9   | B- | 3.0  |
| 74-76.9      | C  | 2.0  | 77-79.9   | C+ | 2.0  |
| 70-73.9      | C- | 2.0  | 74-76.9   | C  | 2.0  |
| 67-69.9      | D+ | 1.0  | 70-73.9   | C- | 2.0  |
| 64-66.9      | D  | 1.0  | Below 60  | F  | 0.00 |
| 60-63.9      | D- | 1.0  |           |    |      |
| Below 60     | F  | 0.00 |           |    |      |

## GRADUATION ACADEMIC HONORS

The following academic honors are awarded and/or recognized at commencement:

### VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN

The top two academic students will be honored on graduation night as a result of finishing first and second in cumulative percent average for all high school academics. The winners are declared at the end of eight semesters (semester two of the senior year). The honors can be shared if candidates are within .02% of each other. When valedictorian honors are shared, there is no salutatorian.

New students (or home educated students) must complete four full-time semesters at Christian Life High School to be eligible for full academic honors. If less than four semesters are completed, they are eligible for “co-winner” honors. This is done by ranking the new student with current students. If the new student ranks ahead of the top one or two fellow students, the new student and the fellow student are declared co-winners. This is done to help keep the integrity of the academic honor for existing students while not penalizing the new student (or home educated student) who will not achieve the minimum four full-time semesters in attendance.

## HIGH HONORS

After eight semesters, a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher to receive the gold cord.

## EAGLE SCHOLAR

After eight semesters, a student must have attained a final GPA of 4.00 or higher to receive a medallion.

### DEPARTMENTAL HIGH HONOR COLOR CORDS

This academic honor is awarded and/or recognized at commencement. A student must have maintained 91% or higher each of eight semesters. The student must have earned four credits in the department and must have been in attendance at CLHS in 11th and 12th grade. Additional requirements per department include:

**Bible** (purple) – a minimum of two credits must be earned in the CLHS Bible curriculum

**English** (royal blue) – all four credits must be earned in honors sections

**Foreign Language** (white) – no additional requirements

**Math** (orange) – four credits in the math curriculum with calculus being the highest level of math completed (home education math coursework is acceptable if the student is successful in calculus)

**Performing Arts** (green) – all four credits must be in either vocal, instrumental, or theater; no combinations

**Physical Education** (grey) – all four credits must be earned at CLHS, not through home education or PE waivers (includes health)

**Science** (light blue) – four credits earned in science curriculum with physics or anatomy being the highest level of science completed; all credits must be earned in science classes with accompanying labs (home education coursework does not qualify due to lack of labs)

**Social Studies** (mauve) – four credits earned in the social studies curriculum with a minimum of one credit earned in an honors section and world history must be one of the courses taken (credit can be earned in psychology).

**Visual Arts** (navy blue) – four credits in fine arts and/or technical arts

\*Note: College level courses receive dual credit with CLHS, and therefore, count toward the four credit requirements. Credits earned by transferring students also count toward these requirements as long as they meet the above criteria.

### DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Each department award is based on eight semesters of academic performance. Certificates are awarded to the top senior (no ties) in the following departments: Art, Bible, English, Foreign Language, Mathematics, Music, Physical Education, Science, and Social Studies. Criteria for selection include: scholastic achievement (GPA) in the department, work ethic, attitude in the classroom, enthusiasm for the department subject matter, academic integrity, classroom leadership and Christ-like character, impact on the department, and a personal commitment to “striving for excellence.”

\*Note: The selection of top senior does not necessarily have to come from the students who qualify for Departmental High Honor Cords.

## NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Christian Life High School has a chapter membership in the National Honor Society. The objective of this chapter is to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in all students of the high school. Membership in this chapter is based upon scholarship, service, leadership, character, and spirituality. Students are selected for nomination into the society by the faculty.

To be eligible for election into membership, the candidate must:

- Be a junior or senior;
- Have **completed a minimum of two full-time semesters at CLHS** or through CLHS-approved home education programs;
- Achieved **at least an 87.5% cumulative average** through four (juniors) or six (seniors) full academic semesters, with all academic credits having been earned (completed transcripts must be on file for students to earn candidate status);
- Submit **documented hours of service** since the start of freshmen year (service hours must be obtained from a minimum of four unique sources – see NHS brochure for specifics);
- Submit **typed and signed candidate application** itemizing leadership demonstrated;
- Provide **two letters of recommendations** (home education applicants need five) from either a pastor, employer or non-NHS faculty member.

Students should check with their guidance counselor to request a copy of the NHS brochure to familiarize themselves with all requirements. Qualifying candidates make application for membership in November and if accepted, become inducted in December.

## FINAL EXAM EXEMPTION

All 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students are required to take semester I and II final exams, which weigh 20% of the semester average. Semester I exemption can occur only for seniors who have a cumulative unweighted average of 95% or greater in a class which is only one semester long (i.e. Health, Senior Advanced Composition, Government). Attendance has no bearing upon final exam exemption.

Semester II final exam exemption can occur, for seniors, in a class with a cumulative, unweighted average of 60% or greater.

## PERMANENT RECORDS

### HOME EDUCATION COURSEWORK

Only approved curriculum by administration may be submitted for our transcript consideration. Once approved, scoring must be by the curriculum agency that mails us an official transcript, and/or a sanctioned online or DVD/CD-ROM program that is self-scoring. Self generated home transcripts may be accepted based on administrator approval.

### REPEATED COURSEWORK

Anytime a student completes a semester of any class, even if repeated, **both** final grades remain on the official transcript reflecting accurate academic history. Both final grades earned are included in determining GPA and class rank.

Although rare, a student may choose to retake a class that has earned a passing grade of “D” in order to improve the grade to open future options. While both final grades earned will be noted on the transcript (percentage and letter grade), credit earned **will only be noted once** for the higher grade.



## COLLEGE COURSEWORK

**Dual credit** can be earned for high school **and** college credit for juniors and seniors at CLHS. Students desiring to enroll in college classes must show evidence of acceptable ACT/SAT scores or take the college's Reading and/or Math assessment tests for placement.

**Non-adult education** courses which meet for a full semester or summer session can earn high school credit once an **official** transcript is received from the college. One semester of college coursework equals one semester of CLHS credit regardless of credit hours earned. **College remedial courses do not receive dual credit** (Examples: Rock Valley College ENG-097, ENG-098, MTH-090, MTH-095, MTH-097, and MTH-099).

Conversion of a RVC course transcript to a CLHS transcript will reflect identical GPA and letter grade. The course percentage is determined by adding either 5% or 10% to the mid-range percentage for that letter grade (1-2 credit courses receive 5%, 3-5 credit courses receive 10%). This grade weighting is only offered for final grades of "C" or better. See your guidance counselor for more details.

## WORK STUDY CREDIT

With prior approval by school administration, a student may earn high school elective credit if employed and in a training program for an occupation they intend to pursue. Examples would be: the trades, farming, or computer programming, if approved. These students would typically report to their place of employment during the regular school day. The student's supervisor is responsible for reporting hours worked per week and duties fulfilled to the school guidance counselor at the end of the semester. A "P-Pass" grade and elective credit can be earned and will be reflected on the official transcript as "Work Study" credit, provided all criteria have been met.

## TRANSCRIPTS

Requests for transcripts must be made in writing to the Registrar, and must include the mailing address of the recipient. **ALL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS** must be mailed. Until satisfactory arrangements are made with the business office concerning financial obligations, report cards and transcripts will **not** be released.

## COURSE SELECTION

### HONORS CLASS SECTIONS QUALIFIERS

Selected coursework at CLHS has an optional honors section tracking. Students who are placed in honors courses receive additional academic credit added to their final semester cumulative percent averages. In order for a student to be placed in an honors course, the following criteria must be met:

#### A. Initial Academic Criteria per Educational Planning Guide

Students must have achieved a minimum of between 75-91% in the most recent semester(s). See this publication for the prerequisite grade requirements for each course.

#### B. Departmental Criteria

1. A student who has a positive attitude and desire to learn
2. A student who completes all work to the best of his/her ability
3. A student who is a positive influence on classmates
4. A student who is organized, prepared, and on time without excessive absences
5. A student who disciplines himself/herself academically through work and study

The **guidance counselor** will place a student in an honors level course based upon the student meeting the above criteria **and** teacher recommendation. Students who do not do well in honors course placements **will not** be placed in honors courses the following academic semester.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

(Not all courses are offered each year)

### BIBLE

Christian Life Schools is committed to providing an exemplary education based on Biblical values and Christian world views which produce students committed to excellence in all aspects of life. The goal of the Bible Department is to help students understand God's Word, His character, and how His precepts provide the moral absolutes and principles for daily living. Students will be taught to articulate, share and defend their faith. CLHS students are required to take four years of Bible to meet graduation requirements.

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|                       |                 |                |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Freshman Bible</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grade 9</b> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|

Prerequisite: None

This course presents the life of Christ beginning with His existence prior to Creation and His prophesied coming in the Old Testament. It proceeds to His birth, His three-year ministry, death, and resurrection then extending to His current work in the world, second coming, and eventual heavenly rule.

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|                        |                 |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sophomore Bible</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grade 10</b> |
|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

Prerequisite: None

This course presents the unifying theme of Scripture - God's plan of redemption. Through the lives of Old and New Testament "saints", students will learn that God's faithfulness leads to the development of faith and subsequent faithfulness in the lives of His people.

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|                     |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Junior Bible</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grade 11</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

Prerequisite: None

This course uses a traditional approach of teaching doctrine to the upper high school level student and combines creative challenges with personal application. The main focus is the basic doctrines of the Bible carefully crafted into age-appropriate lessons with strong emphasis on the application of truth to daily lives.

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|                     |                 |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Senior Bible</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grade 12</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|

Prerequisite: None

This primary focus of this course is the application of a Biblical world view to the challenges students will face as they leave high school and become young adults. The lessons focus on essential Biblical truths so that students have a ready reference for both their studies in school and life in the future. Topics will include: leadership, development of a Biblical world view, making "righteous" choices, wise use of time, good health principles, stewardship of talents, financial management, the world of work, relationships with friends and family, dating and marriage.

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Students in our Minimum Requirement Program must earn two credits in the Humanities. Foreign Language can be taken to meet this requirement. Students in our Recommended College Preparatory Program should take a minimum of two consecutive years of Foreign Language.

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|                               |                 |                    |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>Spanish 1 (I &amp; II)</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grades 9-12</b> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|

Prerequisite: None

This course will introduce students to the Spanish language and culture. The student will learn to understand, speak, read, and write basic Spanish. Teaching methods will include: listening to Hispanic speakers on CD's, videos, group activities, and computers.

**Spanish 2 (III & IV)** **1 credit** **Grades 10-12**

Prerequisite: 75% or higher final semester two grade in Spanish 1  
Teacher recommendation

This course will continue to develop the student's skills in the language: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Concentration will be on oral skills as well as grammar proficiency. Teaching methods will include: listening to Hispanic speakers on CD's, videos, group activities, and computers.

**Honors Spanish 3 (V & VI)** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: 80% or higher final semester two grade in Spanish 2  
Teacher recommendation

This course continues to develop the student's skills in the language: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. English may only be spoken during the first five minutes of class. During this time students have the opportunity to ask questions over items they do not understand. At the end of the five minutes, only Spanish may be spoken by the students and teacher. All teaching and discussion is done in Spanish. Teaching methods include: listening to Hispanic speakers on CD's, videos, group activities, and computers.

**Advanced Honors Spanish 4 (VII & VIII)** **1 credit** **Grades 12**

Prerequisite: 85% or higher final semester two grade in Spanish 3  
Teacher recommendation

This course continues to develop the student's skills in the language: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Absolutely no English may be spoken in class by either the teacher or student. During the second semester, students concentrate on literature and writing. All quizzes and tests are in essay form. Teaching methods include: listening to Hispanic speakers on CD's, videos, group activities, and computers.

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

The Language Arts program at CLHS helps students develop skills in thinking, reading, writing, public speaking, and listening. Individual courses stress analysis and understanding of language, literature, communication, and writing. All students are required to take four years in the Language Arts.

**Freshman English: Foundations** **1 credit** **Grade 9**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8th grade English

This comprehensive Freshman English course focuses on the development of core language arts skills through the study of writing and critical reading. Students develop writing skills, including learning and applying grammar mechanics and usage, structure and style, through a wide variety of writing assignments and techniques, including composing journals, narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and expository paragraphs, book reviews and responses, essays, and a research paper in the MLA style. Students develop critical reading skills through analysis of a varied selection of world literature, including novels, short stories, and drama. Students also have the opportunity to practice presentation skills through a variety of informal projects.

**Honors Freshman English: Foundations** **1 credit** **Grade 9**

Prerequisite: 8th grade English teacher recommendation

This honors course is designed to be more challenging than the above course. Skills emphasized and assignments given are similar in nature. Some of the same literature selections are used, but also includes some more advanced literature selections. The material is studied more in-depth and at a more vigorous pace. Honors students are also required to read two outside novels per semester.

**Sophomore English: American Literature Survey** **1 credit** **Grade 10**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Freshman English

This sophomore English course focuses on the continuing development of composition and critical reading skills through a survey of American literature. Students develop writing skills through a variety of writing projects, including journals, personal essays, book reviews, critical analysis of literary criticism, and a research paper in the MLA style. Students are exposed to and examine a selection of American literature from colonial literature through the modern literature period. Students also do a study of vocabulary throughout the course. Students have the opportunity to practice presentation skills through a variety of informal projects.

**Honors Sophomore English: American Literature Survey** **1 credit** **Grade 10**

Prerequisite: 85% or above in Freshman English  
9th grade English teacher recommendation

This honors course is designed to be more challenging than the above course. Skills emphasized and assignments given are similar in nature. Some of the same literature selections are used, but also includes some more advanced literature selections. The material is studied more in-depth and at a more vigorous pace. Honors students are also required to read two outside novels per semester.

**Junior English: British Literature Survey** **1 credit** **Grade 11**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Sophomore English

This junior English course focuses on the continuing development of composition and critical reading skills through a survey of British literature. Students develop writing skills through a variety of writing projects including journals, personal essays, book reviews, and a second-semester research paper consisting of critical analysis of a British work in the MLA style. Students are exposed to periods of British literature from the Middle Ages (Anglo-Saxon and Medieval) through the Renaissance, Restoration, and Romantic periods. The Victorian Age and Modern period are addressed as time permits. This exposure includes the careful study of poetry, drama, short story, and the novel. Texts include such works as Chaucer's Prologue to the Canterbury Tales, Shakespeare's Macbeth, and Orwell's Animal Farm. Students complete at least two approved novels outside the class for book reviews. In addition to the focus on composition and literature, students pursue a study of vocabulary through the Sadler-Oxford text.

**Honors Junior English: British Literature Survey** **1 credit** **Grade 11**

Prerequisite: 85% or above in Sophomore English  
10th grade English teacher recommendation

This honors course is designed to be more challenging than the above course. Skills emphasized and assignments given are similar in nature. Students are exposed to the same periods of literature and include the careful study of poetry, drama, short story, and the novel. Texts include such works as Chaucer's Prologue to the Canterbury Tales, Shakespeare's Macbeth and A Midsummer Night's Dream, Dickens' A Tale of Two Cities, and Orwell's Animal Farm. Students complete at least two approved novels outside of class for book reviews. In addition to the focus on composition and literature, students pursue a study of vocabulary through the Sadler-Oxford text. Opportunity for England trip bi-annually.

**Senior 12th English Composition** **.5 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 11th grade English

The focus of this first semester senior English course is on the continuing development of composition and the critical thinking skills necessary in rhetoric. Students develop writing skills through a variety of writing projects including journals, personal essays, book reviews, and a research paper in the MLA style. Students also are exposed to literature through a short story unit as well as a poetry unit in which students review literary concepts. Students complete at least one approved novel outside of class for a book review. As a further tool in the pursuit of excellence in composition, students study vocabulary through the Sadler-Oxford text.

**Honors 12th English Advanced Composition** **.5 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: 85% or above in Junior English  
11th grade English teacher recommendation

This honors class is designed to be more challenging than the above course. Skills emphasized and assignments given are similar in nature. Students are exposed to a world literature unit consisting of ancient texts including works of Plato, Aristotle, and Sophocles. Students review literary concepts through units in short story and poetry, and they complete at least one approved novel outside of class for a book review. As a further tool in the pursuit of excellence in composition, students study vocabulary through the Sadler-Oxford text.

**12th English Public Speaking** **.5 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: Seniors only

The focus of this second semester senior English course is the development of speaking as well as critical thinking skills necessary in rhetoric. Students develop speaking skills through a variety of speeches and speaking projects. Speeches include demonstration, informative, persuasive, inspirational, impromptu, and entertaining. Students also develop speech techniques such as posture, diction, eye contact, and emotion through a drama unit in which students participate in the oral presentation of Williams' Glass Menagerie and Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. As a further tool in the pursuit of excellence in presentation, other projects may include participation in a team newscast, another group project, and a debate as time permits. Finally, students write a resume and participate in a mock interview with various community business leaders.

**12th English Honors Public Speaking** **.5 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: Seniors only

This honors class is designed to be more challenging than the above course. Skills emphasized and assignments given are similar in nature. Outside reading may include dramas such as Moliere's Tartuffe and Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest. As a further tool in the pursuit of excellence in presentation, other projects include the research and presentation (oral and written) of a debate against a partner, participation in a team newscast, and one other group project. Finally, students write a resume and participate in a mock interview with various community business leaders.

## **MATHEMATICS**

The Math Department of Christian Life High School offers a wide variety of courses designed to meet the needs of students of varying levels of ability. A student's placement in ninth grade mathematics is based upon previous and current academic performance and the recommendation of the eighth grade math teacher. This placement will determine the sequence of courses students will take within the math department. All students are required to complete a three-year sequence of courses in order to meet graduation requirements. It is recommended that college-bound students complete a three or four-year sequence of courses.

**Algebra 1** **1 credit** **Grade 9**

Prerequisite: Below 70% in 8th grade Algebra 1 with teacher recommendation  
Successful completion of 8th grade Pre-Algebra

Algebra 1 is designed to re-introduce students to the elementary principles of algebra. This course is the foundation of all high school math studies. Topics of study include rational numbers, solving linear equations, polynomials, and graphing relations and functions. Problem solving skills will be stressed throughout the course with an emphasis on the applications of algebra to real life situations. A scientific calculator is required. This course is designed for all high school students.

**Algebra 2** **1 credit** **Grades 9-10**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1

Success in Algebra 1 is imperative for success in this course. Topics of study include inequalities, absolute value, functions, slope, matrices, polynomials, solving quadratic equations, conics, and logarithms. Problem solving skills will be stressed throughout the course with an emphasis on graphing and using graphing calculators and the applications of algebra to real life situations. Students will spend time in the math computer lab investigating and studying real life applications. A scientific calculator is required.

**Honors Algebra 2** **1 credit** **Grades 9-10**

Prerequisite: 85% or better in Algebra 1 with teacher recommendation

Honors Algebra 2 is a second year algebra course designed for the college-bound student interested in math and science. Topics of study include inequalities, absolute value, functions, slope, matrices, polynomials, solving quadratic equations, conics, logarithms, trigonometric identities, sequences and series. Problem solving skills will be stressed throughout the course with an emphasis on graphing and using graphing calculators and the applications of algebra to real life situations. Students will spend time in the math computer lab investigating and studying real life applications. A scientific calculator is a minimum requirement. A student certain of going on through trigonometry may wish to purchase a graphing calculator. This course emphasizes independent learning, individual as well as group projects, classroom presentations, and in-depth discussion of ALL topics.

**Geometry** **1 credit** **Grades 10-11**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2

Geometry is a one year course designed to sharpen critical thinking skills. This course should be considered a minimum requirement for high school graduation. Semester one focuses heavily on two-column proofs involving angles, triangles, lines, and polygons. Semester two focuses on planes, circles, area, volume, and an introduction to trigonometry. Problem solving skills, deductive reasoning, and critical thinking skills will be stressed throughout the course. Students will spend time in the math computer lab investigating and studying real life applications. A scientific calculator is required.

**Honors Geometry** **1 credit** **Grades 10-11**

Prerequisite: 85% or better in Honors Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation or  
91% or better in Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation

Honors Geometry is a one year course for the college-bound student interested in math and science. This course is designed to challenge and motivate the best math students. Semester one focuses heavily on two-column proofs involving angles, triangles, lines, and polygons. Semester two focuses on planes, circles, area, volume, and an introduction to trigonometry. Problem solving skills, deductive reasoning, and critical thinking skills will be stressed throughout the course. Students will spend time in the math computer lab investigating and studying real life applications. The honors section stresses independent studying, group and individual projects, and more in-depth discussion of ALL topics. A scientific calculator is required.

**Trigonometry / Pre-Calculus** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: 80% or better in Geometry with teacher recommendation  
80% or better in Algebra 2 with teacher recommendation

This is a year long class designed for the college-bound student. Topics of study include a brief review of Algebra 2, trigonometric functions, applications of right triangle trigonometry, basic trigonometric identities, graphing, laws of sines and cosines and their applications, vectors, conics, complex numbers, and exponential and logarithmic functions. An emphasis will be placed on the application to real life situations. This is a college prep class taught at an advanced level with an emphasis on student accountability. Graphing calculators will be used. A scientific calculator is a minimum requirement.

**AP Calculus** **1 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: 80% or better in Pre-Calculus with teacher recommendation

This is a college level preparatory math class that is equivalent to a first semester college level calculus course. Several colleges currently use the same text the CLHS uses for this course. Topics of study include a review of pre-calculus concepts, limits, derivatives, applications of derivatives, fundamental theorem of calculus, integration, applications of integration, and an introduction to infinite series.



Strong algebraic skills accompanied with the ability to solve word problems are required and will be enhanced through successful completion of this course. A graphing calculator is required (see instructor before purchase).

## **PERFORMING ARTS**

Christian Life High School has a great music and theatrical tradition. Courses are offered for students with music skills that range from basic to advanced. All courses are one year in length.

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| <b>Band</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grades 9-12</b> |
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Prerequisite: Previous instrumental experience.

If not enrolled in Middle School Band, band instructor approval required.

All basic music skills will be covered and a wide variety of styles performed. Concert Band presents two formal concerts each year. Semester 1 prepares for the Christmas concert and semester 2 prepares for the Spring concert and Commencement. Concert Band performs at Homecoming ceremonies and helps promote school spirit by functioning as the Pep Band and Marching Band at home sporting events and parades. Concert Band may also participate in community functions. Students may participate in Illinois Music Educators Association district and state auditions. IHSA Solo and Ensemble participation is also available. Grades for this class are based on performance, attitude, and participation in class and concert performances are required and graded.

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| <b>Jazz Band</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grades 9-12</b> |
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Prerequisite: By audition only

Students learn the many different styles of jazz through performing, listening, and written theory. Heavy emphasis is on improvisation and a performance orientation. Students will participate in four formal concerts – a Christmas concert, Jazz Night in May, the spring concert, and Commencement. Students have dual responsibilities to both Jazz and Concert Band commitments by performing at Homecoming ceremonies, Pep Band and Marching Band at home sporting events and parades, and other community functions. Jazz Band students will also perform at jazz festivals and other scheduled community service events. Students are encouraged to participate in IMEA district and state auditions. IHSA Solo and Ensemble participation is also encouraged. Grades are based on performance, attitude, and participation in class and concert performances are required and graded.

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| <b>Concert Choir</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grades 9-12</b> |
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Prerequisite: None

Students learn fundamentals of music and their application by studying three and four-part scores. They learn how to read music and work on all styles and types of music through singing. Use of good vocal techniques is emphasized. Students will participate in two formal concerts each year, one each semester. Choral students can elect to participate in IMEA and IHSA events. Grades are based on performance, attitude, and participation in class and concert performances are required and graded.

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| <b>Limited Edition</b> | <b>1 credit</b> | <b>Grades 9-12</b> |
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Prerequisite: By audition only the first week of school

This small vocal ensemble specializes in vocal jazz, chamber music, and show music. Students will strive to achieve the highest level of musicianship and performance techniques. Students will participate in three formal concerts – a Christmas concert, Jazz Night in May, and the spring concert. Students may also perform at other community functions. Grades are based on performance, attitude, and participation in class and concert performances are required and graded.

**Theater****1 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: Interest in drama and/or theater  
 Participation in spring musical is required

This course is designed to educate the students in the performance and production aspects of theater as well as to help students gain a historical, theoretical, and contemporary understanding of and appreciation for this art form. Students will have opportunities for field trips to various theatrical spaces and productions throughout the year, as well as meeting with many different guest speakers who have professional experience in the fine arts. Students will also have the opportunity to work on the production and performance aspects of the spring musical to put into practice what they are studying. Grading is based on attitude, class participation, projects, written assignments, and tests, as well as on a major project selected for each individual student.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH EDUCATION**

Christian Life High School offers a comprehensive program of physical education and health. All students must complete at least five semesters of physical education and one semester of health to meet graduation requirements.

**PE. (Boys/Girls)****.5 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: None

The physical education program will develop fundamental skills in team sports, individual sports, and leisure time activities. These activities are designed to develop a desire for life long fitness, an appreciation of sport as both a participant and spectator, and provide for the development of socialization skills through competition and teamwork. All students will be evaluated by skills tests and written exams and by the President's Challenge Fitness Testing. This class is a semester course. (Note: Students are required to dress in the approved attire and to participate. "Sitting out" is not an option.)

**PE. Exemption/Waivers:**

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|-------------------------|---|
| PE. Medical Exemption   | Students with a medical condition that prevents participation in PE. in any way must have written documentation from the attending physician as to the reason and length of time for the exemption (number of semesters).   |
| PE. Waiver Category I   | **Juniors and seniors who compete in two varsity sports during the school year will receive PE. credit. The athlete must stay on the roster and complete each season in its entirety to qualify for the PE. waiver and the two semester credit for completing two or more sports. |
| PE. Waiver Category II  | **Juniors and seniors who compete in only one varsity sport during the school year must participate in PE. during the semester that their sport does not occur.   |
| PE. Waiver Category III | A Senior taking seven academic courses to graduate is not required to participate in PE.  |

\*\*11th and 12th students who participate in CLHS sports in lieu of a Physical Education class will not receive a percentage grade or letter grade to be included in their GPA or class rank. They will instead receive a Pass (P) or Fail (F) on their transcripts. **If a student schedules the sport waiver for PE and does not participate in the sport, he or she is required to make up the PE credit since the schedule has already been set (this means the student could be potentially scheduled into two PE classes the following year).**



**Health (Boys/Girls)****.5 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: None

Recommended to be taken in 9th grade, or summer school prior to 9th grade

This is a required online one semester course. This class will direct students in a way which promotes living a totally healthful life –body, mind and spirit. This course is a multidimensional approach which will directly affect the productivity and quality of life. Topics of study will include: general anatomy and physiology, nutrition, safety, personal hygiene, fitness, life management, responsibility, community service, and developing healthy relationships.

**Driver's Education (before school)****0 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: 15 years of age with first consideration given to Sophomores

Illinois Instruction Permit

Class fee

This program consists of at least thirty (30) hours of classroom instruction and six (6) hours of behind-the-wheel training. The course uses a basic textbook and the Illinois Rules of the Road booklet. Class is taught by lectures, audiovisual aids, group discussions, and guest speakers. The Behind-the-Wheel program includes both the driving and observation time for each student with the following objectives: helps students understand how and why a motor vehicle functions; help students develop the skills required for safe and efficient driving under varying conditions; help students develop habits

of safe, courteous, and law-abiding practices in the operation of a motor vehicle; help students develop proper attitudes in regard to personal and social responsibility in the operation of a motor vehicle; and help students develop pride and self-discipline in the operation of a motor vehicle. \*During non-driving time, students will be participating in P.E.

*(Note: According to Illinois State Law effective 1-1-94, students must have received passing grades in at least 8 courses during the previous 2 semesters before the certificate will be issued to obtain the drivers license.)*

**SCIENCE**

The Science Department offers a wide variety of courses to students of all ability levels. Students may select from course offerings in the physical and life sciences areas and all emphasize the importance of laboratory investigations as part of the problem solving process. Science courses also emphasize the need to weigh facts and arrive at valid conclusions by making careful observations.

Two full years of science are required for graduation. Most Illinois colleges and universities, and many out-of-state colleges are now requiring a minimum of three years of high school science for college admission.

**Biology****1 credit****Grade 9**

Prerequisite: None

This course offers an introductory study of the concepts for several fields of natural science including ecology, cell biology, genetics, taxonomy, origins of life, botany, microbiology, marine biology, vertebrate anatomy, and human anatomy. This course includes an emphasis on laboratory study and applications. Dissections are included as part of the hands-on lab investigations. Many technology based labs are included.

**Honors Biology****1 credit****Grade 9**

Prerequisite: 85% or better in previous science class with teacher recommendation

While this course is designed to cover the same material as the general biology course, including laboratory study and dissections, this course also contains enriched content and is highly recommended for college-bound students interested in a career in the natural sciences. Quarterly reports and projects are included, which may require extra time outside of class.

**Physical Science** **1 credit** **Grade 10**

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

Physical Science is a one year course designed to introduce students to the elementary principles of Chemistry and Physics. Topics of study include measurement, properties of matter, classification of matter, atomic structure, chemical changes, motion, forces, work, energy, electricity, magnetism, and waves. This course includes an emphasis on laboratory study and application.

**Honors Physical Science** **1 credit** **Grade 10**

Prerequisite: 85% or better in both Biology and Algebra 1

Honors Physical Science is a laboratory based course designed to introduce students to the elementary principles of Chemistry and Physics. Students are required to complete several individual and group projects. Laboratory experiences emphasize the understanding and application of basic scientific principles along with the application of mathematics in science. Topics of study include measurement, properties of matter, classification of matter, atomic structure, chemical changes, motion, force, work, energy, electricity, magnetism, and waves. This course is designed for college bound high school freshmen, especially those interested in the sciences, engineering, or mathematics.

**Chemistry** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: 70% or better in Physical Science with teacher recommendation  
70% or better in Algebra 1 & 2 and Geometry

Chemistry is an introductory study in the concepts of matter. The topics studied include atomic and molecular structure, ionic and covalent bonding, the Periodic Table, chemical equations and stoichiometry, gases, and solutions. This course emphasizes experience in the laboratory, some of which utilizes computers.

**Honors Chemistry** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: 85% or better in Physical Science with teacher recommendation  
85% or better in Algebra 1 & 2 and Geometry

Honors Chemistry is a course study in the concepts of matter. Topics studied include atomic and molecular structure, ionic and covalent bonding, the Periodic Table, chemical equations and stoichiometry, gases, solutions, equilibrium, and nuclear chemistry. This course stresses the use of critical thinking with experience in the laboratory and the utilization of computers. Honors Chemistry is highly recommended for college-bound students interested in a career in the natural sciences, engineering, pre-med or pre-vet.

**Advanced Honors Anatomy and Physiology** **1 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: 75% or better in Biology and Chemistry with teacher recommendation

This course offers a detailed study of the human body and is geared toward those students desiring to enter a health-related profession. The primary emphasis will be on the normal structure and function of the major body systems. The course includes a review of cell biology and an introduction to histology. Lab work consists of detailed dissections of the fetal pig. Technology based labs are included in the hands-on activities. \*Dual credit is available for this class through Rock Valley College.

**Advanced Honors Physics** **1 credit** **Grade 12**

Prerequisite: 75% or better in Algebra 2 and Trigonometry (or taking Trigonometry concurrently with Physics)

This is a college preparatory level physics course with a strong emphasis on mathematical modeling of real life applications. Although Calculus is not required for this course, concepts based on calculus are introduced in this course. Lab work generally requires the use of computers as an interface tool for data collection as well as graphical analysis. Documentation of the laboratory equipment is performed using a word processor, therefore, a home PC is recommended. A graphing utility (i.e. TI-83+, TI-86, or TI-89) is required for Pre-Calculus and Calculus and it is therefore assumed that a student enrolled into Physics will have a graphing calculator or equivalent (PC software, PDA, etc.). The general topics presented in this course are as follows: kinematics, vectors, fluid forces, light, and electromagnetics.

\*Note: While CLS will recognize dual credits from Rock Valley College in meeting high school graduation requirements, some colleges and universities will not accept the dual credits toward meeting their graduation requirements. Please check RVC's articulation agreement with the pending college or university.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Christian Life High School students are required to complete three years of social studies. Students must take United States History, World History or 9th Social Studies Survey (if not in College Preparatory Program), American Government (including passing the Illinois and United States Constitution tests and the United States Flag test), and Economics. Additional electives are available in the social studies department.

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### **9th Social Studies Survey 1 credit Grades 9**

Prerequisite: None

This class will discuss various topics from the core high school social studies classes of: Geography, US and World History, Government/Economics, and Psychology. Students will be introduced to study skills required at the high school level. CNN student news feed via internet will be a component to study current events.

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### **United States History 1 credit Grades 10-11**

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to teach students to utilize the skills of analysis and interpretation of historical events of the United States. The course will encourage students to be active in learning, preserving and interpreting historical events and data. Students will be asked to express the impact of persons, periods, and/or events on the course of United States history. Students will use critical thinking skills in discussions, writing projects, testing, essays, and other projects to explain their understanding of events linking the past and present.

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### **Honors United States History 1 credit Grades 10-11**

Prerequisite: 9th grade English teacher recommendation

Honors United States History students learn how to ask critical questions and how to defend a thesis orally. They are given two viewpoints of an American historical event and they have to investigate to see which opinion is more factual than the other. They then defend their choice in front of the class. Honors students write one research paper as well as participate in a formal debate. Homework consists of critical thinking skills which are used to determine if the evidence is valid or invalid or if it is based on primary or secondary documentation.

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### **AP United States History 1 credit Grades 10-11**

Prerequisite: 10th/11th grade English teacher recommendation

This is a college level class in US History. Students will be expected to do research and write papers on selected topics. Format is lecture/discussion.

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### **World History 1 credit Grade 10-11**

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed as a survey of world history from Creation through the 21st Century. Topics of study include: Greco-Roman civilization, world religions, early civilizations, feudalism, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Age of Reform, Industry, and Discovery. World History is required for all college-bound students.

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### **Honors World History 1 credit Grade 10-11**

Prerequisite: Previous social studies teacher recommendation

Honors World History students learn how to ask critical questions and how to defend a thesis orally. They are given two viewpoints of a world historical event and they have to investigate to see which opinion is more factual than the other. They then defend their choice in front of the class. Honors students participate in a formal debate as well as writing a research paper. This course is recommended for college-bound students interested in developing higher level thinking skills.

**American Government****.5 credit****Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: None

This semester one course studies the foundations of the United States government and our American governmental system at the federal, state, and local levels. Students will be tested on the United States constitution, the State of Illinois constitution, and the United States flag (a passing grade on each test is mandatory for graduation). There will be debates and written/oral projects.

**Economics****.5 credit****Grades 11-12**

Prerequisite: None

This semester two course studies how people and nations make choices as to how to fulfill their wants and needs while doing so with scarce resources. A personal financial overview covering topics such as creating a budget, savings and investment, credit and debt, purchasing insurance, buying a car, and the payment of taxes will be covered. There will be projects, including Market Day, and guest speakers addressing different economic issues.

**VISUAL ARTS**

The art curriculum is threefold: 1) lifting up Jesus through visualizing the Word of God, 2) training in skill and technique using a wide range of media, and 3) preparing work for portfolios for college, art shows, or an entry level graphic design position. The following art show competitions are entered: Rock Valley High School Jury Show, Rockford Art Museum Jury Show, Rockford Snow Sculpting High School Competition, and special invitational competitions. All art classes are one year in length. Class size is limited due to the lab style used. Additional materials may be needed for some class

**Art 1/2 Drawing/Painting****1 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: Limit of fourteen students

Drawing /Painting is an exciting one year course designed to develop basic art skills. A variety of drawings will be completed using the different mediums such as graphite, charcoal, pastel, ink, and mixed media. The basic elements of art, design, and color theory will be emphasized and will lead into painting. Paintings will be completed in watercolor and acrylic. In addition to the weekly assignments and projects you will also keep an art journal. This course is a foundation course that will prepare you for other art courses such as ceramics, graphic design, and advanced art.

**Art 3/4 Intermediate Art****1 credit****Grades 10-12**

Prerequisite: Art 1/2 (Recommended: B or / better in Art 1/2), Instructor Approval

Art 3/4 is a one year intermediate art course designed for further refinement of drawing and painting skills. Various art making practices and new media will be introduced such as, colored pencil, mixed media, scratchboard, and more advanced acrylic and watercolor painting techniques. Visual literacy and visual communication skills will be further developed. In addition to the weekly assignments and projects the students will also keep a sketchbook. Historical and contemporary topics will be evident in student work and/ or through class discussion.

**Introduction to Graphic Design****1 credit****Grades 9-12**

Prerequisite: No prior experience

The Intro to Graphic Design course mainly focuses on the fundamentals of graphic design including: design principles, typography, logo design, color theory, and page layout. The students will learn how to use the *Adobe Creative Suite- Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign* to create their projects.

**Digital Media** **1 credit** **Grades 9-12**

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Prerequisite: No prior experience

Digital Media is a one year course that combines digital design, digital art, and at the end of the year, digital filmmaking. This class provides the student with the education they need to create functional and creative digital media designs. The programs covered are *Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and Apple iMovie*, including their applications and use in digital media production and editing. This course will serve students interested in an art class using digital medium. The Digital Media curriculum is *project-based*. Considerable attention will be given to the development of visualization skills – centered around the study of art and including the Elements of Design: Line, Shape, Color, Texture, Space and Value and the Principles of Design: Unity, Harmony, Variety, Contrast, Movement, Balance, Emphasis, Repetition, and Rhythm.

**Ceramics** **1 credit** **Grades 10-12**

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Prerequisite: Teacher approval

This class is designed to introduce the student to artistic expression through the medium of clay. The learning process would include an introduction to hand-building techniques and wheel-throwing skills. Projects created with clay would represent a scriptural theme and involve daily “hands-on” experience with clay. This course is for the self motivated art student.

**Advanced Art** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

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Prerequisite: Intermediate Art, (B or Better), Teacher approval

This class is an upper level course designed to enable students to build a college portfolio in a variety of two-dimensional media. Students with a firm understanding of the elements of art and the principles of design will be able to create advanced artwork in the areas of drawing, painting, printmaking, and mixed media.

**Yearbook** **1 credit** **Grades 11-12**

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Prerequisite: Juniors or Seniors only  
Previous year-end application with teacher approval  
Previous Art or Design class, preferred English course  
with minimum of 80% or higher

This course produces the school yearbook. Students will develop a theme, work on spreads using Jostens Yearbook Avenue, interview students and teachers, and take photographs. The students will learn basic photography skills and how to color correct photos in Adobe Photoshop. It is very helpful, but not required, that students have access to their own digital camera. Selling and designing advertisements is another requirement. The abilities of working independently, taking initiative, and following through with assigned tasks are essential. Students must have strong writing skills for copywriting, proofreading, and editing. Skills in being organized, paying attention to detail, and working well with a team are necessary. The yearbook will be delivered in the spring for grades K-12. Upon completion of the year’s work in March, the course shifts to Advanced Graphic Design.

## GENERAL ELECTIVES

**Teacher/Staff Aide** **.5 credit** **Grades 10-12**

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Prerequisite: Sophomores, juniors and seniors only  
Limited to four (4) semesters in four (4) years  
Pass/Fail only

Students are assigned to a teacher or other CLS staff for the semester. Students carry out duties required by the supervising staff member. Students are given credit based on daily attendance, punctuality, a cooperative attitude, dependability and ability to perform duties at a level of competency.

**Ignitia (Online courses)** Please refer to the following curriculum listing.



# Curriculum

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- +ENGLISH I (10 Units)
- +ENGLISH II (10 Units)
- +ENGLISH III (10 Units)
- +ENGLISH IV (10 Units)
- \*ESSENTIALS OF COMMUNICATION (6 units Final Exam)
- \*AMERICAN LITERATURE
- \*BRITISH LITERATURE

## HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

- AMERICAN HISTORY
- \*CIVIL WAR (6 units Final Exam)
- GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS (11 units)
- \*20th CENTURY AMERICAN HISTORY (6 Units Final Exam)
- \*VIETNAM ERA (6 units Final Exam)
- WORLD GEOGRAPHY (13 Units)
- WORLD HISTORY (10 Units)
- \*#THE STORY OF THE CONSTITUTION
- \*CIVICS
- \*#STATE HISTORIES (All states) - Δ 1 unit State Histories

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- \*@FRENCH I (12 Units Semester Exams)
- \*@ FRENCH II (12 Units Semester Exams)
- \*@SPANISH I (12 Units Semester Exams)
- \*@ SPANISH II (12 Units Semester Exams)
- Δ \*#ELEMENTARY FRENCH
- Δ \*#SECONDARY FRENCH
- Δ \*#ELEMENTARY SPANISH
- Δ \*# SECONDARY SPANISH

## BUSINESS AND WORKPLACE SKILLS

- \*BUSINESS COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS IA (6 Units Sem.Ex.)
- \*BUSINESS COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS IB (6 Units Sem.Ex.)
- \*@PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY (6 Units Semester Exam)
- \*# ESSENTIALS OF BUSINESS (1 unit, 28 lessons, 13 projects)

## GED

- GED PREP HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY (4 Units)
- GED PREP LANGUAGE ARTS (4 Units)
- GED PREP MATHEMATICS (8 Units)
- GED PREP SCIENCE (4 Units)

## PLACEMENT

- Δ #BIBLE PLACEMENT TEST (GRADES 3-12)
- Δ #HISTORY PLACEMENT TEST (Grades 3-12)
- Δ #LANGUAGE ARTS PLACEMENT TEST (Grades 3-12)
- Δ #MATH PLACEMENT TEST (Grades 3-12)
- Δ #SCIENCE PLACEMENT TEST (Grades 3-12)

## HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE

- +BIOLOGY (10 Units)
- +CHEMISTRY (13 Units)
- \*+EARTH SCIENCE (10 Units)
- \*GENERAL SCIENCE III (10 Units)
- \*+INTEGRATED PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY (13 Units)
- +PHYSICS (13 Units)
- \*FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

## BIBLE

- BIBLE DOCTRINE
- CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIVING
- NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY
- OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY
- \*FOUNDATIONS FOR LIVING

## HEALTH

- \*#HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH (5 Units)
- \*@PHYSICAL FITNESS (6 Units Semester Exam)
- Δ \*# PHYSICAL EDUCATION (1 unit, 28 lessons, 18 projects, Semester exam)

## HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

- +ALGEBRA I (13 Units)
- +ALGEBRA II (13 Units)
- \*CONSUMER MATH (10 Units)
- +GEOMETRY (13 Units)
- PRE-CALCULUS (10 Units)
- \*TRIGONOMETRY (6 Units Final Exam)
- Δ #ESSENTIALS OF MATHEMATICS (7 Units Final Exam)

## ARTS

- Δ \*#DIGITAL ARTS (1 unit, 31 lessons, 17 projects)
- \*@MUSIC THEORY (6 Units Final Exam)
- \* MUSIC APPRECIATION (6 Units Final Exam)

## AP Courses

- Δ +#CALCULUS (for use with AP courses) (10 units)
- Δ +#U.S. HISTORY (for use with AP courses) (19 Units)

## OTHER ELECTIVES

- COLLEGE PLANNER



## Curriculum (See Legend at bottom)

### Business and Administration Cluster

- #Office Applications I: Microsoft® Word®, PowerPoint®, and Publisher® (5 Units)
- #Office Applications II: Microsoft® Excel® and Access® (5 Units)
- #Small Business Entrepreneurship (5 Units)
- #Technology and Business (11 Units)

### Information Technology Cluster

- #Introduction to Information Support and Services (6 Units)
- #Introduction to Network Systems (6 Units)
- #New Applications: Web Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (6 Units)
- #Introduction to Information Technology (6 Units)
- #Software Development Tools (6 Units)
- #Fundamentals of Programming and Software Development (6 Units)
- #Fundamentals of Computer Systems (6 Units)
- #Fundamentals of Digital Media (6 Units)
- #Network System Design (6 Units)

### Health Science Cluster

- #Careers in Allied Health (5 Units)

#### All courses with 13 units will have Semester Exams and Final Exams

@ = 3 options for Unit Quizzes and All Tests

# = Not available for CRx

\* = Located in Electives

= Not Flex Eligible

+ = Semester Exam and Final Exam



# STANDARDIZED TESTING

## Achievement Tests

### K-10th grade

- Each other year grades K-10 participate in standardized testing. Students who are absent will not make up any part of the test.

The guidance counselor at Christian Life will inform parents and students about the paperwork for registration, fees, deadlines, and results of the following:

### 8th Grade

- All 8th grade students will be given the opportunity to take ACT's Explore Assessment in February. It will indicate interests and evaluate English, math, reading and science skills.

### 10th Grade

- Sophomores have the opportunity to take the PLAN test. It is a comprehensive assessment service that gives the student practice for taking the ACT needed for college admissions and provides the student and parent with information that can be used to plan and prepare for future academic and career success. The PLAN is given in the fall at CLHS.

### 11th Grade

- Juniors have the opportunity to take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall at CLHS. The PSAT is the precursor to the SAT I (one of the two main college entrance examinations). Students' results may qualify them for the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- Juniors are encouraged to take the ACT Assessment in the spring at a designated off-campus location. The ACT can be taken several times to improve scores (a registration fee will be incurred each time). In the spring, a 21-hour ACT Prep Course is taught at CLHS to boost confidence (and scores) of students by reviewing math, reading, English, and science fundamentals and strategies for taking the test. A simulated ACT test is given the last week of the course.
- Juniors can also take the SAT I: Reasoning Test in the spring at a designated off-campus location. The SAT I can be taken several times to improve scores.

### 12th Grade

- Seniors can take the ACT and the SAT I in the fall at a designated off-campus location. Some colleges and universities also request scores from the SAT II: Subject Tests. These tests fall into five areas: English, history and social studies, mathematics, sciences, and languages. The ACT, SAT I, and the SAT II can be taken again in the winter and spring if scores need improvement. A registration fee will be incurred each time one of these tests is taken.
- Students have the opportunity to earn college credit (depending on the score) by taking AP tests from the Educational Testing Service. AP exams may be taken without taking AP courses. The tests are ordered the beginning of March and given the beginning of May according to the national date and time. There is a fee per test ordered and a small fee is charged even if the test is ordered and not taken. CLEP tests are conducted monthly at Rock Valley College. Students earning qualifying scores can waiver college general education (introductory course) requirements that enable students to receive placement in upper level courses (no college credit is given).

*Note: Students taking the ACT or SAT are requested to enter the high school College Board Code Number on the registration form. The Christian Life High School code number is 143-698. This number should be used on both college entrance exams.*



## ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) EXAMINATIONS

There are currently thirty-four courses in a wide variety of subject areas currently available to high school students:

|                          |                                     |                        |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Art History              | English-Language & Composition      | Latin-Literature       |
| Studio Art Drawing       | English-Literature & Composition    | Latin-Vergil           |
| Studio Art 2-D Design    | Environmental Science               | Music Theory           |
| Studio Art 3-D Design    | French-Language                     | Physics B              |
| Biology                  | French-Literature                   | Physics C (Mechanics)  |
| Calculus AB              | German-Language                     | Physics C (Electricity |
| Calculus BC              | Government & Politics-Comparative   | & Magnetism)           |
| Chemistry                | Government & Politics-United States | Psychology             |
| Computer Science A       | History-European                    | Spanish-Language       |
| Computer Science AB      | History-United States               | Spanish-Literature     |
| Economics-Macroeconomics | History-World                       | Statistics             |
| Economics-Microeconomics | Human Geography                     |                        |

These exams cover the breadth of information, skills, and assignments found in the corresponding college course. AP exams contain multiple-choice questions and a free-response section (either essay or problem-solving). Scores on the AP exams range from 5 at the highest to 1 at the lowest and are given in whole numbers only. Most colleges and universities have an AP policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both on the basis of their AP exam score. Students seeking credit through their AP scores should note that individual colleges and universities grant course credit and placement, not the College Board or the AP Program. Therefore, students should obtain a college's AP policy by searching the institution's catalogue or web site, or by using the "College Search" feature on [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com).

CLHS students can sit for any exam; however, they should consult their guidance counselor.

## COLLEGE LEVEL EXAMINATION PROGRAM (CLEP)

These exams can help shorten your path to a college degree. Depending on a college's CLEP policy and satisfactory scores on the CLEP exams, students can skip general introductory courses and move on to classes relevant to their major. CLEP examinations are offered in general and subject areas. They are conducted monthly at Rock Valley College. For more information contact the Counseling Center at RVC.

The Guidance Counselors at CLHS will inform parents and students about the paperwork for registration, fees, deadlines, and results. Parents are then responsible for meeting any deadline once notified. Students should also be checking the Educational & Career Planning Bulletin Board or the CLS web site for testing information.

# ATHLETICS AND OTHER EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

## ATHLETICS

Students may participate and compete in any of the following interscholastic sports. Note – The following abbreviations are used to indicate competition at various levels: V-Varsity, JV–Junior Varsity, F/S-Fresh/Soph, F-Freshmen, and MS- Middle School.

### HIGH SCHOOL

IHSA member school (Class A, 2A)  
Northeastern Athletic Conference (NAC)

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

IESA member school  
Northern Conference  
Stateline Football Conference  
Art Sadtler Basketball

### ELEMENTARY

Stateline Football Conference  
YMCA League Flag Football (Belv.)  
Art Sadtler Basketball

### Fall Sports

Football (boys) JV & V  
Soccer (boys) JV & V  
Volleyball (girls) JV & V  
Golf (boys & girls) JV & V  
Cross Country (boys & girls)

### Fall Sports

Tackle Football (boys) 6-8  
Soccer (coed) 6-8  
Volleyball (girls) 7-8

### Fall Sports

Tackle Football (boys) 5-6  
Flag Football 1-2, 3-4  
Volleyball (girls) 5-6  
Soccer (coed) 3-5

### Winter Sports

Basketball (boys & girls) JV & V  
Cheerleading (girls) JV & V  
Bowling (boys & girls) NIBC Conf.

### Winter Sports

Basketball (boys & girls) 7-8  
Cheerleading (girls) 7-8  
Bowling (boys & girls) 6-8

### Winter Sports

Basketball (boys & girls) 4-6  
Little Eagles Basketball K-3

### Spring Sports

Indoor Track (boys & girls) V  
Track (boys & girls) JV & V  
Softball (girls) V  
Baseball (boys) JV & V  
Soccer (girls) JV & V

### Spring Sports

Track (boys & girls) 7-8

### Spring Sports

Track (boys & girls) 5-6

## MUSICAL GROUPS

Pep Band/Marching Band as part of Band/Jazz Band

A major musical production is done every spring. Tryouts are open to all students.

## OTHER EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

National Honor Society (Grades 11-12)  
Academic Scholastic Bowl (Grades 9-12)  
Trips (Grades 9-12)  
Key Club (9-12)

Student Council (Grades 9-12)  
Retreats (Grades 9-12) Missions  
Worship Team (Grades 9-12)

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

It is mandatory that all CLHS students have passed **all** classes in the previous semester to be eligible for participation in the spring musical, student council, worship team, and missions trips.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR IHSA SPONSORED STUDENT ACTIVITIES

**IHSA sponsored student activities** at CLHS include all listed CLHS level sports and the Scholastic Bowl.

Christian Life High School has chosen a pursuit of excellence above the minimum IHSA requirements; thus, the following CLHS academic eligibility requirements must also be met.

IHSA Academic Requirements:

- Each student should be passing a minimum of 25 hours per week. This translates to five (5) CLHS academic courses.
- **CLHS Part-time Home educated students** who wish to participate in grades 9-12 IHSA sports/ activities **must enroll in at least one CLHS class and three (3) CLHS approved home education curriculum courses.**
- Each student must be passing a minimum of 25 hours at the end of the semester, or they are rendered ineligible for the entire next semester, or they must make it up prior to the start of the next term.
- A student shall not have reached his/her 20th birthday during a given sport/activity season. If so, the student shall be ineligible for that sport/activity and any other future sport/activity.
- **A student who has been ineligible for 3 consecutive weeks, will be removed from the team, forfeit any awards they may have earned, and their sports fee will not be refunded.**

CLHS Academic Requirements:

- Eligibility runs from Monday to Monday as a cumulative semester average.
- In order to be eligible to participate in any IHSA activity, **a student must maintain a minimum grade of 60% in each course** in which the student is enrolled.
- Any student failing to meet the 60% criteria shall be **suspended from contests for seven (7) calendar days.**
- A student rendered ineligible due to failing a class and receives permission to drop the course, will not be eligible until the **next** eligibility is run (the following Monday).
- **Part-time Home educated students** must submit their grades **weekly on Mondays** to the athletic office for eligibility.

## ACADEMIC RESPONSIBILITY OF STUDENT ATHLETES

Student athletes are informed in advance of athletic contest dates and times of dismissal by the printed sports schedule and the coach's instructions. It is the responsibility of student athletes to discuss with their respective teachers what information was missed due to athletic absence and to turn in and make up work in a **timely manner.** Informing teachers of pending absence and turning in work in advance of the absence is **strongly suggested and the responsibility of the student/athlete.**

## NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (NCAA) REGULATIONS

If you wish to participate in any sport during your freshman year at a **Division I or II** college, you must satisfy the requirements of the **NCAA Bylaw 14.3** commonly known as **Proposition 48**. Your eligibility for practice and competition in your freshman year will be certified by the **NCAA Clearinghouse**. The recommended time for you to send in the required form is the **end of your junior year** of high school. Forms are available in the Guidance Office. Forms are to be picked up, filled out, and **returned to the Guidance Office**. If this form is not mailed in by the Guidance Department, you will not be allowed to participate in athletics your freshman year of college! **It is your responsibility to see that this form is mailed. See you counselor if you have questions.**

Following is a list of all courses which the NCAA considers core courses at Christian Life High School. By visiting the NCAA web site ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)), you can find the specific **Freshmen Eligibility Standards** as specified by the NCAA for Division I and II. These requirements do not apply to Division III colleges; the college itself decides if a student is eligible. **Remember** – this information has nothing to do with a college accepting students, but rather a student's eligibility to participate in sports as a freshman.

\*Note: Courses taken in the 8th grade **may not** be used to meet the **16** core-course requirement for Division I schools.

### DIVISION I (2016 and after)

#### 16 Core Courses:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy)

### DIVISION II (2016 and after)

#### 16 Core Courses:

- 3 years of English
- 2 years of mathematics (Algebra 1 or higher)
- 2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school)
- 3 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science
- 2 years of social science
- 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy)

## APPROVED NCAA CORE COURSES AT CLHS

### ENGLISH

Freshman English  
Honors Freshman English  
Sophomore English  
Honors Sophomore English  
Junior English  
Honors Junior English  
Senior Advanced Composition  
Honors Seniors Adv. Composition  
12 English Public Speaking  
12 English Honors Public Speaking

### SOCIAL STUDIES

9 Social Studies Survey  
United States History  
Honors United States History  
World History  
Honors World History  
AP United States Government  
American Government  
Economics

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish 1  
Spanish 2  
Honors Spanish 3  
Advanced Honors Spanish 4

## **MATHEMATICS**

Algebra 1  
Algebra 2  
Honors Algebra 2  
Geometry  
Honors Geometry  
Honors Trigonometry/ Pre-Calc.  
AP Calculus

## **SCIENCE**

Biology  
Honors Biology  
Physical Science  
Honors Physical Science  
Chemistry  
Advanced Honors Physics  
Advanced Honors Anatomy and Physiology

## **STRATEGIC COLLEGE PLANNER**

**(Are You Planning for Your Future?)**

### **9th GRADE**

- Get the best grades you possibly can. Do not wait until you are a junior or senior to start getting serious about academics. You may be closing doors to your future.
- Keep track of your extracurricular activity involvement, community service, and leadership positions. You will need these your junior and senior years for National Honor Society, college, and scholarship applications.
- Start career planning. Begin thinking about your interests and abilities. Research professions and careers. Talk to people about their jobs. What do they like and dislike about their careers? What did it take to get there?
- Check out [www.collegezone.com](http://www.collegezone.com) for information on colleges, careers, financial aid, etc. This web site includes both a “Student Zone” and “Parent Zone.” It is a complete college planning resource.

### **10th GRADE**

- Continue getting good grades. Make academics a priority.
- Are you keeping track of your extracurricular activities? How close are you to completing the 40 hours of community service needed for National Honor Society?
- Start to check out colleges and universities on the Internet. If you have the opportunity, visit a college just to get a feel for the campus and student life.

### **11th GRADE**

- Take the PSAT in the fall at CLHS.
- Start narrowing your focus on potential areas of college study. By now you should have some idea of which subjects you really enjoy in school and which you do well in.
- Attend area college fairs in the fall – CLS Christian College Fair, Rockford College and Rock Valley College and Career Fairs.
- If eligible, apply for membership in the National Honor Society by early November.
- Visit colleges in the spring.
- Take the ACT Prep course at CLHS in the spring. You may consider taking the ACT in February or April before the Prep class to see what areas need improvement.
- Consider taking the SAT in May since colleges on the east and west coast prefer the SAT. Think about purchasing a book (and reading and studying it) on preparing for the SAT to become familiar with strategies for taking that test.
- Definitely take the ACT in June.
- Begin researching and applying for scholarships at the end of your junior year.
- If you plan on participating in sports your freshman year at a Division I or II college, be sure to complete the required NCAA form and return it to the Guidance Office.
- Over the summer secure college applications (if available) by mail or online.

## 12th GRADE

### FOUR YEAR COLLEGE PLANS:

- If you have not taken the ACT, register for the September, October, or December date. Consider retaking the ACT to improve your score. There is also a February testing date.
- Complete college applications. Keep in mind early application deadlines. Do not wait until the last minute; the guidance counselor is assisting many students at this time.
- Research and apply for scholarships. Pay attention to the deadlines. Give teachers ample time for writing letters of recommendation and allow the guidance counselor time to complete his portion of the application.
- Pray and wait for the letters of acceptance.
- If necessary, visit the colleges where you've been accepted. This will help you in making your final decision.
- Once you accept the college's offer, make the necessary housing arrangements by completing the housing application.
- In October complete online FAFSA. This is necessary for any financial aid, whether need-based or a merit scholarship.
- Continue to look and apply for scholarships (again, check the Educational and Career Planning Bulletin Board weekly for updates).
- Consider taking the AP or CLEP exam(s).
- Continue to make the most of your final high school months, both academically and socially.

### TWO YEAR COLLEGE (ROCK VALLEY COLLEGE) PLANS:

- Be sure to attend the three RVC meetings at CLHS during your senior year.
- Complete an RVC application and take their entrance assessment test by February. (Note: Your ACT exam results may exempt you from taking the assessment test.)
- RVC class registrations are online. Summer class registration is in mid-March and Fall Class registration is in April.

### MILITARY PLANS:

- The armed services branches visit CLHS occasionally. The RVC College/Career Fair in early October has all branch representatives available to talk to in one evening. Otherwise, visit their recruiting offices at 621 Highgrove Place, Rockford.

***Congratulations! You are a high school graduate. Your future is waiting.***

# CHRISTIAN LIFE MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Christian Life Middle School is composed of grades 6 through 8. The middle school concept slowly transitions the students from elementary school to the rapid classroom and teacher changes and the academic demands they will encounter in high school. Students receive daily instruction in the core academic courses (Bible, English/Literature, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and Physical Education. Students will also choose an elective class that meets for an entire school year. Elective class availability/offering is dependent upon student interest and class registration.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADE-LEVEL INFORMATION

### 6th GRADE

#### Core Classes (Yearlong)

Bible  
English/Literature/Spelling  
Math  
Science  
World History  
Physical Education

#### Elective Choices (By Semester)

Art  
Band (Yearlong)  
General Music/Choir  
Spanish  
Study Skills

### 7th GRADE

#### Core Classes (Yearlong)

Bible  
English/Literature/Spelling  
General Math/Pre-Algebra  
Science  
World Geography  
Physical Education

#### Elective Choices (By Semester)

Art  
Band (Yearlong)  
Choir  
MS Technology Course  
Spanish  
Study Skills

### 8th GRADE

#### Core Classes (Yearlong)

Bible  
English/Literature/Spelling  
Pre-Algebra/\*Algebra 1  
Science  
US History/\*\*State & Federal Government  
Physical Education

#### Elective Choices (By Semester)

Art  
Band (Yearlong)  
Choir  
MS Technology Course  
Spanish  
Study Skills

Acquiring a solid foundation in math skills is essential to future success in higher level math courses that are required for graduation. As a result, placement in 7th and 8th grade math is determined at the end of the previous school term. The decision is made by the previous year's math teacher, the guidance counselor, and the middle school principal. The decision is based on semester two academic progress, the semester two placement test (final exam), and teacher recommendation.

*\*By taking Algebra 1 in 8th grade, students are on track to go into Algebra 2 in 9th grade, Geometry in 10th grade, Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus in 11th grade, and Calculus in 12th grade. They **will not receive credit on their high school transcript** having taken the course in middle school. This does, however, afford them the opportunity to be on track to take Calculus by their senior year. This tracking is recommended for students who plan on a possible math intensive major in college (Ex. engineering, pre-med or pre-vet). Students can re-take Algebra 1 in 9th grade, if a better high school math foundation is deemed necessary by the 8th grade math teacher and guidance counselor.*

*\*\* Students must pass the Illinois and US Constitution tests for promotion to 9th grade.*



## Elective Course Descriptions

**6th Art:** Students continue to learn art concepts and refine their skills from elementary art. The hands-on activities will allow students to use tactile, kinesthetic, and spatial sensory channels to experience the challenges of this next level of art. Projects are graded by a point system.

**MS (7th & 8th grade) Art:** This course is a combination of art history and art appreciation, designed to expose students to a variety of art media and techniques. Quizzes and tests based upon art methods and art history will support the objective aspect of this course; however, the main portion of the class will be the subjective evaluation of twelve to fifteen major projects that must be completed during the course of each semester.

**6th Band:** This band class is comprised of sixth grade students with **previous band experience, or by approval of the teacher**. Class time is spent learning how to read, interpret, and perform music excellently, continuing with *Standard of Excellence, Book 1 and beginning Book 2*. Upon completion, we use sheet music (handed out by the teacher and then considered the responsibility of the student). The goal of this class is to develop self-discipline, teamwork, and skill as a musician. Students are required to perform in the Christmas and spring concerts.

**MS (7th & 8th grade) Band:** This band class is comprised of seventh and eighth grade students with **previous band experience**. Class time is spent learning how to read, interpret, and perform music excellently, continuing with *Standard of Excellence, Book 2 and introduction to Book 3*. The goal is for students to develop self-discipline, teamwork, and skill as a musician. Students are required to perform in the Christmas and spring concerts. Eighth grade students will have the opportunity to perform at the high school graduation and in pre-approved pep and marching band events.

**6th Foreign Language:** This class will introduce students to a foreign language of their choice by practicing the skills of speaking, listening, and reading. Students will learn how the language functions grammatically and how to use it in everyday life.

**MS (7th & 8th) Foreign Language:** This course provides a solid foundation for reading, speaking, writing, and understanding the foreign language and cultivates a passion for it through exposure to culture and dynamic experiences of real people and real places.

**6th Choir (General Music):** This choir class is performance oriented. No auditions required. There is a focus on proper singing technique, and basic music elements. This choir joins with the MS Choir for this performance. Performances and a few additional rehearsals are required.

**MS (7th & 8th grade) Choir:** This choir class is performance oriented. No auditions required. There is a focus on proper singing technique, and basics about music notation, pitch, rhythm and articulation, as well as drama that culminates with a drama/music presentation, often a musical. This choir joins with the 6th Grade Choir for this performance. Performances and a few additional rehearsals are required.

**MS (7th & 8th grade) Technology Course:** This technology course focuses on computer keyboarding techniques to better prepare your student for high school. Students will learn to understand computer ethics (social networks, cyberbullying, internet etiquette, plagiarism, copyright, etc.), and be introduced to Microsoft Word as a word processing tool. (May be taken in 7th or 8th Grade.)



**6th Spanish:** The sixth grade program covers vocabulary, conversation, and grammar. Students will have the opportunity to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Homework is assigned weekly and students are given weekly quizzes. Comprehensive final exams are given at semester end.

**MS (7th & 8th grade) Spanish:** This middle school Spanish class covers vocabulary, conversation, and grammar which will prepare students for our high school level Spanish 1 course. Students have the opportunity to enhance comprehension, conversation, reading and writing skills. Homework is assigned weekly, and students are given weekly quizzes. Tests are given at the end of each chapter and comprehensive final exams at semester end.

**MS (6th) Study Skills:** The content of this course will focus on six different skill areas that fall within the vast context of Study Skills. These areas include organization, time management/personal responsibility, active listening, note taking/summarizing, test-taking skills, and goal setting. Students will participate in a variety of activities in order to strengthen their skills in each of these areas of focus and learn to apply these skills to their work in other courses.

**MS (7th & 8th) Study Skills:** The content of this course will focus on six different skill areas that fall within the vast context of Study Skills. These areas include organization, time management/personal responsibility, active listening, note taking/summarizing, test-taking skills, and goal setting. Students will participate in a variety of activities in order to strengthen their skills in each of these areas of focus and learn to apply these skills to their work in other courses.

**CHRISTIAN LIFE SCHOOLS**

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a ministry of

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