



VALLEY CHRISTIAN  SCHOOLS

— HIGH SCHOOL —
COURSE OFFERINGS

Big School Opportunities. Small School Environment.

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Bible

Bible 9 (1st Semester) - Heroes of the Faith

In this course, students will do character analyses of major and minor biblical characters with a heavy emphasis on personal application. Much of the semester will be spent in the Old Testament with special attention given to men and women who believed in Yahweh and lived out their faith.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 9 (2nd Semester) - Life of Christ & Church

In this course, students will study the life of Christ and the life of the early church as seen through the books of Luke and Acts. Students will focus on the person of Jesus Christ and the Lordship of Christ in the student's life. Special attention will be given to the teachings of Jesus especially as it applies to how to relate to those around us. As well, a keen focus will be towards the birth, death, and resurrection of our Lord. Students will also be introduced to the early Christian Church and its impact in the world both then and now. Highlights from the Book of Acts will include: Pentecost, miracles, and the journeys of Paul.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 10 (1st Semester) - Studying the Bible

This course prepares learners to be good stewards of the Bible. Students will be encouraged to prayerfully engage the Scriptures with biblical assumptions and a God-honoring posture. They will additionally survey the various methods that are typically used to interpret the Bible; this investigation will enable them to observe the healthiness of certain methods, such as the historical-grammatical process, and the danger of other approaches, such as the allegorical system of interpretation. The students will then interpret various texts by considering genre, context, historical background, and other critical factors with the aim of applying truth to their life contexts.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 10 (2nd Semester) - Missions

This course equips students to eventually serve on a missions trip by providing them information from the Scriptures as to what missions is and what it looked like. Students will be engaged with the Book of Acts, specifically Paul's three missionary journeys, where they will discover God's intentions for the body of Christ as it pertains to missions. Prayerfully, this course will help students make a decision to go on an VCS High School Engage trip or a missions trip with their local church.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 11 (1st Semester) - Church History

This course is a comprehensive study of the history of our Christianity. Beginning with the early church and studying up to the current age, students will be inspired to emulate the men and women who followed after Christ. Students will also critically evaluate the challenges as well as the mistakes that the Church made. The course is designed to strengthen our faith as we follow those who followed Christ throughout history.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 11 (2nd Semester) - World Religions

This course is a comparative study of world religions, which aims to demonstrate that “faith has its reasons.” Students will undergo an introductory study on the following perspectives: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Roman Catholicism, Mormonism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other influential systems of belief. Learners will discover how to recognize, evaluate, and rebuttal tenets that flow from false presuppositions. They will also learn how to defend their faith with a variety of epistemological sources, such as the Bible (the ultimate source of truth), science, reason, intuition, etc.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 12 (1st Semester) - Christian Living

The course will seek to help students grow spiritually and better understand their faith so they can confidently share their faith with those around them. Through this knowledge and growth they may seek to become more sanctified believers as they serve at VCS High School, in the local church, and in the world using the gifts God has given them. They will be given opportunities to lead and encourage one another in their Christian faith and life.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Bible 12 (2nd Semester) - 18 Questions

18 Questions challenges students to think about today’s moral issues in light of the Scriptures and to make informed decisions as to where they stand on those issues. For each issue, students access a repository of articles/videos, and begin formulating an educated opinion of which they share with the rest of the class in a Socratic-based discussion. Each issue lasts approximately one week with teacher notes shared at the end of each week.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Ministry Development

The purpose of the Ministry Development Class is twofold: 1) To develop the worship ministry leaders of tomorrow through spiritual coursework and hands-on training. 2) To prepare all aspects of Valley Christian’s weekly chapel service.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Business & Technology

Aerospace - Flight (1st semester only):**

This curriculum, written by AOPA, is designed for those seeking to become pilots or join the aviation industry. This course will introduce students to principles of flight and the fundamental physical laws affecting flight. Students will learn about basic aerodynamics and forces that act on aircraft in flight. An additional unit will focus on career opportunities in the aviation industry.

**Pending sufficient enrollment | Prerequisites: Algebra 1 AND Grade 10+

Aerospace - Systems (2nd semester only):**

This curriculum, written by AOPA, is designed for those seeking to become pilots or join the aviation industry. This course will introduce students to basic aircraft and UAS structures and their major components. This course will also introduce the main systems found on large and small airplanes and UAS. Students who have completed both Aerospace - Flight and Aerospace - Systems will have the opportunity at the end of this semester to become FAA certified drone pilots by taking the Part 107 sUAS Exam.

**Pending sufficient enrollment | Prerequisites: Algebra 1 AND Grade 10+

AP Computer Science A

In this full-year, Advanced Placement course, prepare for college level programming in the language of Java by learning complex Object-Oriented Programming concepts including Inheritance, Data Structures, and Polymorphism. This course focuses on the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems.

One year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Intro to Computer Programming (or instructor approval) **Pending sufficient enrollment

Cybersecurity**

In this 1-semester course, students cover the basics in the world of Cybersecurity, including how to protect themselves and their data online. Topics of interest include network structures, encryption, cloud computing, and virtual networks. No coding experience necessary.

**Pending sufficient enrollment

One Semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: Grade 10+

Digital Marketing & Communications

This is a yearlong elective course will be a project-based course that teaches students an overview of marketing and media. Through managing the athletics website, designing and creating content for the athletics media guides, and contributing content to school social media channels (Instagram, Twitter, YouTube), we will learn about and practice concepts such as branding, graphic design, copy-writing, and social media management.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

CCL

Entrepreneurship

Freshman Seminar

This course includes a brief overview of key technology tools and ideas essential for success as 9th Graders begin high school, along with an introduction to “Trojan Culture”. Students will read the Sean Covey book, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. Students reflect on these seven habits, utilizing the Bible to discern what other habits are essential for young people to be Christ followers. There will be a unit addressing Digital Citizenship and how VCS High School students can have a healthy relationship with the technology in their lives. Students will learn the Word, PowerPoint and Excel components of the Microsoft Suite and their integration with the iPad.

One Semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Learn to Lead

Learn to Lead like Walt, Wooden, and Yahweh is a semester-long elective course that takes a deep dive into three different leadership styles – Walt Disney, John Wooden, and Jesus Christ. Throughout the semester students will be using three different leadership books to explore topics such as organizational leadership, marketing, brand, service, people skills, culture, and more. The leadership principles discussed in this class will help train our students to be better leaders in the classroom, on the court, and in their future careers. This will be a project-based class.

One Semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Intro to Computer Programming

This Introductory course is designed for the student who has little or no background knowledge in computer programming. In this full-year course, we develop introductory topics of programming using the languages of Python and Java, including algorithms, conditional decision making, Boolean logic, loops, functions, and classes, as well as an application of graphics known as Applets.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Introduction to Engineering Design

Introduction to Engineering Design (IED) is a high school level course that is appropriate for students who are interested in design and engineering. The major focus of the IED course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. IED gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APPB) learning. Used in combination with a teaming approach, APPB-learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities and understanding of the design process. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Engineering Design**

In this full-year course with curriculum from Project Lead The Way (PLTW), students will learn the basics of Computer Aided Design (CAD), and the step-by-step processes that engineers use to create new products or improve existing ones. Students explore engineering tools and apply a common approach to the solution of engineering problems, an engineering design process.

**Pending sufficient enrollment

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Geometry & Grade 10+

Personal Finance

Personal Finance is a one semester elective class offered to those who desire to learn how to plan and manage their own personal finances, and take responsibility as a citizen according to God's economic principles based in scripture. Practical topics include: budgeting, choices that affect income, financial decisions and planning, paying for credit, credit problems and laws, insurance, saving and investing, buying and selling, as well as career and financial goals. The focus of this course is to help those who will soon be starting down a path to personal financial independence. This elective class is designed for sophomores, juniors, or seniors.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Robotics Club

This 8th-period, no-credit class section serves as shop time for those on our FIRST FTC and FRC Robotics Teams to get additional work in on their robots during the day.

One semester – No credit | Prerequisite: Membership in VCS Robotics Club for the semester (either FTC or FRC)

Student Council – Officers Class

This is a yearlong course where students are elected to represent the student body and impact its culture. The mission of VCS Student Council is to build community, create memories, serve the student body, and joyfully lead the pursuit of a lasting legacy for God’s glory. The Student Body and Class Officers accomplish this by doing anything and everything an ambassador/representative does PLUS practicing the skills of event planning, budgeting, record keeping, public speaking, and more. The Officers class is open to students who have served in Student Council 1 semester prior and must be elected or interviewed by the StuCo Advisors. The goal of this class is to set the vision and plan for the student body and could be working on the big picture items like plans for dances, assemblies, senior kickoff/closeout trips, and more! DOES REQUIRE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL COMMITMENT.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, interview, and elections

Student Council – Representatives and Ambassadors

This is a yearlong course where students can choose to represent the student body and impact its culture. The mission of VCS Student Council is to build community, create memories, serve the student body, and joyfully lead the pursuit of a lasting legacy for God’s glory. The Representatives and Ambassadors accomplish this by helping to host shadows and give tours, using artistic skills to create posters, flyers, or artwork to enhance an event or highlight an on campus group, and by practicing the skills of problem solving, communication, servant leadership, marketing and publicity, and more. The Representatives and Ambassadors class is open to students who have been recommended and invited to participate by VCS teachers. The goal of this class is to carry out the vision and plan for the student body and could be working on the day-to-day tasks like painting or hanging posters, filling the vending machines, collecting supplies for assembly games, and more! DOES NOT REQUIRE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL COMMITMENT, BUT IS ENCOURAGED!

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and interview

Survey of Engineering

The STEM Survey will provide a foundation of the engineering design process and its applications in the four STEM pathways at VCS High School. Students will learn techniques to form and answer questions using the scientific method. Additionally, students will give feedback and utilize peer review to improve their proposed solution to any given problem. An emphasis will also be put on soft skills such as collaboration, communication, and presentation. These will be critical components of the project-based learning present throughout the course. In conclusion, the students will have created a digital portfolio documenting their career exploration, use of the engineering design process, and the answers to the questions formed along the way.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Yearbook

This is a yearlong elective course will be a project-based course that teaches students an overview of branding, design, copy writing, photography, marketing, and sales. Students will be using those skills and tools such as Treering yearbook editing software, Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, and Canva to design the yearbook that document's the school's history.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

English

English 9

This course is required for all freshman students. English 9 is a combination course which implements elements of literature, Socratic discussion, writing (both formal and creative), grammar, and vocabulary. The course includes fiction and nonfiction (short stories, novels and poetry), essay writing and research (formal writing), Shakespeare and drama, and SAT vocabulary. English 9 is meant to prepare students for further course work both at Valley and for their college career as well as real life and work related reading and writing.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

English 10

This course is required for all sophomore students. It builds upon the skills acquired in English 9 while preparing the students for English 11. Students will deepen their understanding of literature through the study of short stories, novels, Shakespeare, and poetry. Writing skills will be developed in formal research papers, creative writing, analytical essays, and online discussions. Oral communication, textual analysis, and argumentative skills will be strengthened with the inclusion of frequent Socratic discussions. Additionally, students will strengthen their ability to apply knowledge of academic and literary vocabulary in preparation for the SAT/ACT and future academic coursework.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: English 9

English 11

This course is required for all junior students and places a major emphasis on the study of American literature in a chronological context. Students will extend and build upon the skills they have developed in English 10 and prepare for English 12. Students will demonstrate competence in the use of the English language by writing a variety of expository and creative assignments, including a research paper and making formal and informal oral presentations. The units in this course integrate the study of literature, grammar, composition, and SAT vocabulary.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: English 10

AP English Language and Composition

This course, for juniors and seniors, is designed according to the requirements and guidelines of the current AP College Board English Course Description. It is equivalent to an introductory, diverse college composition course in which students are required to write in several forms including analytical, expository, and argumentative as well as read a variety of nonfiction texts from the Classical Era to the present. There is an emphasis on the basic tenets of rhetoric, which include the author's purpose, addressing and appealing to an audience, structures, style, and strategies.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: English 10; accepted application/teacher approval

English 12

This is a course for twelfth grade college preparatory students. It helps to prepare students for English 101 by requiring the refining of expository, expressive, research, and argumentative writing skills. The literature component of the course includes studies of British and World Literature, contemporary literature, critical and process analysis, figurative language, rhetoric, and style. In preparation for the actual college experience, this course engages in Socratic Discussion as well as independent and cooperative learning experiences which are required on most college campuses.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: English 11

AP English Literature and Composition

This course, for juniors and seniors, is designed according to the requirements and guidelines of the current AP College Board English Course Description. It is equivalent to an introductory, college literature course in which students read and analyze a variety of fiction texts from the Classical Era to the present. There is an emphasis on identifying complex themes and the literary elements that support those themes, articulating in-depth analysis through writing and discussion.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: AP English Language and Composition

Online Dual Enrollment English 103

We are excited to offer online dual enrollment classes through Colorado Christian University. This course focuses on the effective use of the English language and exploration of rhetorical modes in written composition. Structure, purpose, and audience awareness in developing essays is addressed.

This course will cost \$300 and upon completion will grant 3 highly transferable college credits.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: "C" or better in English 11

Online Dual Enrollment English 104

We are excited to offer online dual enrollment classes through Colorado Christian University. This course focuses on the development and strengthening skills of effective business and professional communication in both written and oral modes. The course includes heavy emphases on effective research and writing, with a focus on academic and business writing. Development of skills in research and writing of formal academic papers: critical thinking, argumentation, and documentation.

This course will cost \$300 and upon completion will grant 3 highly transferable college credits.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Fine Arts

Advanced Painting

In this semester course, students will learn advanced techniques of painting in a student-centered environment. Students will apply the theme of sense to explore further concept questions throughout the semester to various painting projects. Contemporary painting practices and influences from art history will allow for students to make connections for inspiration and understanding.

Grading will be based on best practices of Studio Habits of Mind so that artistic dispositions may be established. Self-reflection essays will assess students' learning and encourage critical thinking in reflection. Weekly sketchbook homework will be given to help students practice compositional and conceptual techniques. Each student will have work exhibited in one exhibition throughout the year. Studio Art 2-D is a pre-requisite for this course.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: Studio Art 2D

Apparel Design

This course introduces students to the history of fashion trends, principles of design, construction of garments and accessories, and the business of merchandising products. It is conducted by the use of lectures, discussions, cooperative learning, inquiry-based learning, sewing machine work, and oral presentations. Students are automatically a part of the FIDM Fashion Club and will participate in the Fashion Debut in California, and the Art Exhibit at Valley Christian High School in the Spring. Fundraisers and FIDM scholarships will help defray the cost of travel to the Debut. The total estimated cost for the course is \$125 per student.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Band

The Valley Christian Concert Band is designed to give beginning, intermediate and advanced woodwind, brass, and percussion players a well-rounded music education which includes advancing music pedagogy and band repertoire. Musicians participating in the band are given many opportunities throughout the year to advance their expertise on their instrument both individually and as part of an ensemble. The band prepares for and performs at school spirit events, sporting events, concerts, festivals, and Fine Arts events throughout this year long course.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

High School Course Offerings

Chorale

For admittance into Chorale, singers are interviewed and auditioned in front of the Fine Arts Director, Fine Arts Assistant, VCS High School Administrator, and Guidance Counselor. Prerequisites include proper vocal technique, sight reading skills, accurate intonation, academic eligibility, leadership, and servant hood. This ensemble is expected to represent VCS High School and their walk with the Lord with a high level of excellence and integrity. Chorale members are exposed to more serious and challenging choral literature where the sense of ensemble is emphasized. Classroom time involves not only singing together, but also learning how to effectively present the message of Christ through music. There are many concerts throughout the school year (approx. 40) including one out of state tour. Chorale students are required to be members and section leaders of the Concert Choir.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Co-Requisite: Concert Choir

Concert Choir

The development of musicianship, overall confidence, music appreciation, breath support combined with basic theory and healthy vocal technique are the foundations of this course. This performance ensemble will learn 4 to 8-part music in a mixed (SATB, SSAATTBB) setting. Listening, healthy vocal technique, and Biblical integration will be emphasized along with excellent rehearsal etiquette. A variety of musical genres will be utilized. Concert Choir will perform several times throughout the school year in churches, at school events, and for various organizations.

They will also participate in music festivals, contests and tours. No audition needed.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

Jazz Band

The Valley Christian Jazz Band is designed to give intermediate and advanced wind and rhythm players opportunity to explore and play advancing jazz pedagogy and standards in jazz repertoire. This ensemble meets three days per week during 0 Period before the regular school day begins. The Jazz Band prepares and performs in a variety of assemblies, concerts, festivals, and Fine Arts events throughout this year long course. Membership in jazz band is determined by audition and enrollment in concert band.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Co-Requisite: Band

Speech

This introductory Speech and Communications course is required for all juniors. It will provide students with the basic concepts of public speaking and speech preparation, then offer many opportunities to practice them. Students will give speeches to classmates and work together on team speech projects. Note: speeches and assignments get increasingly more difficult as the semester progresses. Be prepared to work hard!

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

String Orchestra (9-12)

Valley Christian String Orchestra is designed to give beginning, intermediate, and advanced string players (violin, viola, cello, bass) a well-rounded music education which includes advancing music pedagogy and string ensemble repertoire. Musicians participating in String Orchestra are given many opportunities throughout the year to advance their expertise on their instrument both individually and as part of an ensemble. String Orchestra prepares and performs at school events, concerts, festivals, and Fine Arts events throughout this year long course.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

Studio Art 2D

In this semester course, students will learn the fundamental elements of design in 2-D art through projects that involve the practices of drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students will apply themes regarding contemporary art practices and learn of influences from art history when making connections to their artwork. Grading will be based on best practices of Studio Habits of Mind so that artistic dispositions may be established. Self-reflection essays will assess students' learning and encourage critical thinking in reflection. Weekly sketchbook homework will be given to help students practice compositional and conceptual techniques. Each student will have work exhibited in two exhibitions throughout the year. This course is a pre-requisite for all other visual art courses.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Studio Art 3D

In this semester course, students will learn the fundamental elements of design in 3-D art through projects that involve the practices of sculpture and ceramics. Students will learn of techniques using metal, wire, wood, basketry, and hand-building clay. Students will apply themes and techniques regarding various contemporary and ancient cultures. Grading will be based on best practices of Studio Habits of Mind so that artistic dispositions may be established. Self-reflection essays will assess students' learning and encourage critical thinking in reflection. Weekly sketchbook homework will be given to help students practice compositional and conceptual techniques. Each student will have work exhibited in one exhibition during the semester. Studio Art 2-D is a pre-requisite for this course.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: Studio Art 2D

Theatre 1

Over the course of a full year, students will study Viewpoints technique, Theatre History, and Theatrical Design. Each student will participate in the semester performance as well as audition to participate in any performance requests made by the school (see: Night of Worship, Spiritual Emphasis Conference, chapel, mini tour). Each semester, students will select a specialization for the semester project. Specializations include: acting, stage management, lighting design, sound design, properties design, costume design, makeup design, and more to be graded upon performance of the semester play or musical.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

Theatre 2: Advanced Acting (10-12)

Students will develop a deeper knowledge of acting and dramatic skills for future opportunities such as amateur theatre, college auditions, or long-term careers.

Academic Goals:

- Students will learn and apply advanced theatrical knowledge through the performance of a dramatic production.
- Learn advanced material such as College Audition Prep, Stanislavski Method, Meisner, Musical Theatre, and Shakespeare.
- Develop acting methods outside of fall and spring performances.
- Expand upon musical theatre skills and performance.
- Increase and understanding of dramatic speech, such as monologues.

Performance Goals:

In preparation and performances, we wish to reflect Christ in all we do. Every performance is an opportunity to have a significant impact on the world around us through our actions and the ministry of theatre. The final performance includes:

- Conduct and execute an effective monologue.
- Conduct and execute a dramatic musical performance.
- Incorporate script memorization and expression from a designated theatrical production at the conclusion of the fall and spring semesters.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Theatre 1 or teacher recommendation

Valley Rhythmics

Valley Rhythmics is designed to give intermediate and advanced percussionists an opportunity to perform in a more advanced rhythmic and “performance art” type of ensemble. Percussionists will be given opportunity to advance their rhythm and drumming expertise by combining the use of unusual instruments and choreography into a performance. Valley Rhythmics prepares for and performs at school spirit events, concerts, festivals, and Fine Arts events throughout this year long course. Membership in Valley Rhythmics is determined by audition and enrollment in a VCS High School music ensemble.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

Math

Advanced Math Topics

Advanced Math Topics is a stepping stone course from Algebra 2 to Pre-Calculus. Advanced Math Topics includes a study of (1) Linear Functions (2) Quadratic and Polynomial Functions (3) Graphing Functions and Rational Functions (4) Exponential and Logarithmic Functions (5) Right Triangle Trigonometry (6) Trigonometry and the Unit Circle (7) Graphs of Trigonometric Functions (8) Conics (9) Probability and Statistics.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Algebra 2

Algebra 1

The purpose of Algebra 1 is to lay the foundation for all other math courses. The primary focus is on writing, solving, and graphing linear equations, linear inequalities, and quadratic equations. Coordinate geometry will be introduced. Quadratic equations will be solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. The course also includes study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations, while continuing to strengthen students' confidence in their basic math skills. This class satisfies the prerequisite for Geometry.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or satisfactory completion of an equivalent course.

Algebra 2

Algebra II includes a study of (1) functions, (2) quadratic functions, equations, and relations, (3) polynomial functions, expressions, and equations, (4) rational functions, expressions, and equations, (5) radical functions, expressions, and equations, (6) exponential and logarithmic functions and equations, (7) trigonometric functions, (8) probability.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry; may be taken concurrently with Geometry

AP Calculus AB

Advanced Placement Calculus AB is the equivalent of a 1st semester university calculus course. Covering basic differential and integral calculus and applications, this course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Calculus AB Exam given in May. This class satisfies the prerequisite for AP Calculus BC.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus BC

Advanced Placement Calculus BC is the equivalent of a 2nd semester university calculus course. Covering advanced differential and integral calculus and applications, this course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Calculus BC Exam given in May.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Calculus AB

Pre-Algebra

The purpose of Pre-Algebra is to lay the foundation for all other math courses. The primary focus is on writing, solving, and graphing linear equations, linear inequalities, and quadratic equations. Coordinate geometry will be introduced. Quadratic equations will be solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. The course also includes study of monomial and polynomial expressions, inequalities, exponents, functions, rational expressions, ratio, and proportion. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving situations, while continuing to strengthen students' confidence in their basic math skills. This class satisfies the prerequisite for Algebra 1.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Algebra 2

Pre-Calculus

Pre-Calculus includes a study of (1) Functions and Their Graphs (2) Polynomial and Rational Functions (3) Exponential and Logarithmic Functions (4) Trigonometric Functions (5) Analytic Trigonometry (6) Vectors (7) Linear Systems and Matrices (8) Sequences, Series, and Probability, (9) Conics, and (10) Limits and Intro to Calculus.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in Algebra 2.

Online Dual Enrollment Pre-Calculus (MAT 115)

We are excited to offer online dual enrollment classes through Colorado Christian University. Study of functions - polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric. Emphasis on representing these functions numerically, graphically, symbolically. A recommended prerequisite course for Calculus I. Registering for this course will require the purchase of an eTextbook payable through the course shell in Brightspace.

This course will cost \$300 and upon completion will grant 3 highly transferable college credits.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Grade of C or better in Algebra 2.

Pre-AP Geometry

Geometry includes a study of (1) transformations, congruency, and symmetry of figures (2) lines, angles, and triangle properties, (3) quadrilaterals and proofs, (4) Similarity between figures, (5) trigonometry, (6) circle properties, (7) measurement and modeling of 2-dimensional figures and 3-dimensional solids.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Algebra 1 or satisfactory score on the VCS High School Geometry Entrance placement test.

Modern Language

American Sign Language I

American Sign Language (ASL) I is a complete, complex language that employs signs made with the hands and other movements, including facial expressions and postures of the body. ASL I enables students to begin to acquire proficiency in American Sign Language through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach. Emphasis is placed on the development of receptive and expressive signing skills and on the acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. An exposure to the deaf and hard-of-hearing culture will be presented; students are expected to participate in this culture and analyze it from a Christian worldview. This course can be used to satisfy the foreign language requirement for graduation.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: None

American Sign Language II

American Sign Language (ASL) II continues to emphasize communication using ASL. The grammatical and structural formation of ASL II is further developed using vocabulary units, themes, dialogues, and narratives. Students will continue to develop skill receptively and expressively in ASL II as well as glossing/transcribing English into ASL. Students will broaden their understanding of what it means to be deaf and will continue to explore deaf culture. Through signing praise songs and scripture, students will be able to worship and glorify God. This course can be used to satisfy the foreign language requirement for graduation.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: ASL I

Spanish I

Spanish I is an introductory, elementary Spanish course. Students will be able to communicate God's love through basic Spanish conversation. Students are introduced to Spanish-speaking cultures and begin to develop basic speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills necessary for interaction with Spanish speakers in the United States.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: None

Spanish II

Spanish II is a continuing elementary, lower-intermediate course which provides students with the opportunity to further develop communicative proficiency in Spanish. Students will be able to communicate God's love through conversation and scripture reference. The course develops the communicative skills necessary for extended travel, study, and residency in a Spanish-speaking country. Students will practice reading, writing, and speaking to achieve "Novice High to Intermediate Low" communicative proficiency, as defined by the American Teachers of Foreign Languages.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Spanish III

Spanish III is an intermediate course, which provides students the opportunity to further develop their communicative proficiency in Spanish. Students will begin to analyze class content from a Christian worldview. Students will study sophisticated grammatical structures of the language, while gaining knowledge and awareness of Spanish-speaking cultures in Europe, Latin America, Africa, and the United States. Students speak, write, and read to develop "Intermediate-High" proficiency, as defined by the American Teachers of Foreign Languages. Students study Spanish language literature, art, history, and social customs from diverse Spanish-speaking communities. Students engage in research projects intended to further their knowledge of Spanish-speaking cultures' history, art, literature, music, politics, and current events.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisite: Spanish II

Physical Education

Beginning Weight Training

Beginning Weight Training is an elective course divided into two sections—life-style fitness and athletic-specific lifting. This course focuses on body development education through performance training. Students will be active in learning to perform and develop weight lifting programs for fitness, core strength development, or athletic-specific training. This activity-based class may require daily workouts, filling out fitness logs, and completion of written assignments for mastery of class requirements. Course objectives will be repeated throughout the year. Weight training uses PLT4M lifting instruction which is a “cloud-based strength and conditioning platform that delivers all of the tools a coach needs and the experience an athlete wants”. This course is for beginning weight lifters.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Advanced Weight Training

Advanced Weight Training is an elective course divided into two sections—life-style fitness and athletic-specific lifting. This course focuses on body development education through performance training. Students will be active in performing and developing weight lifting programs for fitness, core strength development, or athletic-specific training. This activity-based class may require daily workouts, filling out fitness logs, and completion of written assignments for mastery of class requirements. Course objectives will be repeated throughout the year. Weight training uses PLT4M lifting instruction which is a “cloud-based strength and conditioning platform that delivers all of the tools a coach needs and the experience an athlete wants”. This course is for experienced weight lifters who have background in lifting techniques.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: Successful completion of Beginning Weight Training or approval of instructor.

Football Weight Training

The football weight training class is a required class for those participating in the sport of football unless it conflicts with required classes they must take. The football weight training class is designed to increase sports performance and aid in the prevention of injuries. The class also helps maintain mobility, flexibility, as well as conditioning during the season. Football weight training is not open to those not participating in football.

Prerequisite: VCS football player

Girls Fitness

Beginner Girls Fitness teaches female students new to fitness and exercise basic fitness formats, including circuit training, bodyweight movements, and beginner weight training. The class emphasizes the importance of developing and improving overall strength, cardiovascular endurance and mobility, and find a form of fitness that keeps them engaged and consistent with physical activity for the long term.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: None

Advanced Women's Fitness

This class teaches female students how to make physical activity and fitness a life-long priority. By leading them through various fitness formats, students will be able to take this knowledge and use it at the gym on their own time and will be familiar with common exercises when participating in a group fitness class outside of school. The class emphasizes the importance of developing and improving overall strength, cardiovascular endurance, and mobility well into their adult lives, and find a form of fitness that keeps them engaged and consistent with physical activity for the long term. Students will also learn foundational barbell lifts and the proper technique and mechanics for compound barbell movements.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisite: Beginners Girls Fitness

Girls PE / Boys PE

Physical Education is a one-semester course required of all students. The focus of the course is fitness education and training, and leisure sports education and participation. It emphasizes anatomy and care of the body in all aspects of life – spiritual, emotional, social, and physical. Students will engage in healthy fitness activities, recreational activities, and sports. This course is normally taken during the freshman year.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Girls Health / Boys Health

Health is a one-semester course required of all students. The focus of the course is health education. It emphasizes basic anatomy and care of the body in all aspects of life: academically, spiritually, physically, socially, and emotionally. Students will engage in health fitness education which will include systems of the body, nutrition, drugs, and even some studies related to reducing life stress.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

Science

Anatomy and Physiology

This course examines human anatomy and physiology from a systematic perspective. Students will discuss most of the major systems. Besides examining the major systems of the body, this course delves into cell biology, organic chemistry, homeostatic processes within the human body, histology, various disorders and diseases, and other human physiological processes.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Biology (or STEM Biology) and Chemistry

AP Biology

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a college-level introductory biology course and as such has the demands of a college course. The intent of the course is to expose students to higher-level biological principles, concepts, and skills and provide them the opportunity to apply their knowledge to real-life applications. Students are also expected to learn not by memorization of facts, but through content and concept application via the AP Biology science practices.

In the AP Biology course, the teacher serves as the facilitator while the students develop as independent thinkers and learners, especially through laboratory investigations. Many concepts that are considered prerequisite knowledge for the course can be reviewed via at home study using resources such as assigned websites, independent research, and journal articles. In class, students are given opportunities to learn and apply their knowledge through the process of inquiry rather than strictly learning from lectures and/or prescribed lab protocols.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry (with a grade of A or B) or concurrent enrollment in Chemistry and Biology teacher recommendation.

Chemistry

Chemistry is designed for junior students simultaneously enrolled in Algebra II or higher. Material covered includes: critical thinking and problem solving skills, properties of elements and compounds, model of the atom up to Bohr's model, quantum mechanics, chemical bonding, ionic bonds, covalent bonds, metallic bonds, covalent networks, nomenclature, shapes of molecules, VSPR model, Lewis structures, the periodic table and periodicity, chemical reactions and product prediction, stoichiometry, chemical composition, properties of gases, liquid and solids, solutions and heterogeneous mixtures, acids and bases, titration, buffer solution, chemical equilibrium, thermodynamics and thermochemistry, red-ox reactions and electrochemistry, radioactivity and nuclear energy, and an overview of organic chemistry. It is a laboratory class to provide basic lab techniques with proper laboratory write ups.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Integrated Science, Biology (or STEM Biology)

Forensic Science

This is an elective science course designed to give students an avenue to combine basic scientific concepts, critical thinking skills, and technology to solve and analyze crimes. Students will utilize a combination of facts, scientific concepts, and principles, along with lab techniques from the fields of earth science, biology, physics, anatomy and physiology, as well as chemistry for the purpose of interpreting and providing analysis of evidence and its application within the legal system. This course will also allow students the opportunity to discuss and learn about ethics, legalities, and miscellaneous social concerns regarding forensic science and the legal/judicial systems. The goal of this course is to prepare our students for citizenship and to advance their knowledge of science and how it relates to the world around them.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Biology (or STEM Biology) and Chemistry

Integrated Science

Physical science is one of the three main branches of science. It is the study of matter and energy, including chemistry and physics. This course is a basis for further study of chemistry and physics. Labs and investigations are conducted to allow students a hands-on and experiential approach to learning. Biblical principles will be integrated as we learn about topics such as: matter, the periodic table, chemical bonding and reactions, motion, energy, and force.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

Physics

This is a yearlong, physical science course designed for students who are planning on pursuing science or engineering in college. It is a laboratory class that teaches students basic lab techniques and how to complete proper laboratory write ups. Seventy-five percent of the class is spent on application of principles and equations by intensive problem-solving. Areas covered include: vector and scalar operations, motion in one- and two-dimensions, projectile motion, forces, Newton's laws of motion, work energy, power, momentum, elastic and inelastic collisions, gravitational forces, rotational motion, torque, simple machines, fluid mechanics, thermodynamics, heat engines, simple harmonic motion, springs, waves, sound, the Doppler effect, harmonics, light and reflection, refraction, interference and diffraction, electric fields, electricity, electrical energy, circuits and circuit elements, magnetism, induction and alternating current, nuclear physics, subatomic physics, relativity, and modern electronics.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Biology (or STEM Biology) and Chemistry

STEM Biology

Biology is a sophomore level lab science course which is an introduction to the life sciences. It covers topics such as how God reveals Himself through creation, a Christian approach to science, scientific method, cellular organization and processes, biogeochemical cycles, bioenergy, biotechnology, and bioethics. The course is project based and students conduct research with teams. This course also teaches students standard laboratory operations, instrumentation and appropriate laboratory safety practices and procedures.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Integrated Science

Social Studies

World History

In the 10th grade World History class, students survey the history of man from a biblical perspective, gaining an understanding of how God has worked and is working in our world. Topics that are studied include the growth of world civilizations, medieval Europe, developments in Asia and Africa, the Renaissance and Reformation, the formation and growth of nations and empires, industrialism, imperialism, the world wars, the postwar world, and the opening of the 21st Century.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

AP World History

In the 10th grade Advanced Placement World History class, students study world history from approximately 8000 B.C. to the present. Students investigate the for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods by analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, and engaging in chronological reasoning. Students learn a substantial amount of social, political, and economic history as well as how to analyze and evaluate that information in class discussions and essays.

AP World History differs in several ways from other courses students may have taken in the past:

- A significantly larger body of information is covered in this course.
- Students are responsible for reading and comprehending college-level textbook material and primary documents.
- Many assignments must be completed outside of class.
- Assessments and assignments require students to understand, analyze, and evaluate information in greater quantities and at deeper levels than is typical in regular courses.
- The pace of the course is fairly rapid.

This course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those of full year introductory college courses. It is possible to earn college credit for AP World History through successful completion of the AP exam in May.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

US History

Students explore the history of the United States from early colonization to the present, including the development of the United States Constitution, the Civil War, and America in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: None

AP US History (APUSH)

APUSH is a college-level introductory course that examines the nation's political, diplomatic, intellectual, cultural, social, and economic history from 1491 to the present. A variety of instructional approaches are employed, and a college-level textbook is supplemented by primary and secondary sources.

Full Year – 1.0 credit | Prerequisites: Students are placed in APUSH by recommendation from the previous year's World History teacher.

Economics

In the 12th grade Economics class, students are introduced to classic macroeconomic issues such as growth, inflation, unemployment, interest rates, exchange rates, technological progress, and budget deficits. This one-semester course seeks to provide a unified framework to address these issues from a distinctly Christian perspective and to study the impact of different economic policies on the aggregate behavior of individuals. Analytical tools will be used to understand recent economic experiences of the United States and other countries, and to address how current policy initiatives affect macroeconomic performance.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

High School Course Offerings

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United States Government

In the 12th grade United States Government class, students study the political system of the United States with an emphasis on the constitutional development of the three branches. Students also explore voting, political parties, campaigns and elections, interest groups, public opinion, and current domestic policy controversies. The course is designed to increase the student's awareness and understanding of the political process and the impact of race, gender, and ethnicity on it. In addition, the citizen's role within that process is discussed in light of a Christian worldview.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

AP United States Government

AP/DE Government offers 12th grade students the opportunity to study the American political system and its origins in depth. Students study the political system of the United States with an emphasis on the constitutional development of the three branches. Students also explore voting, political parties, campaigns and elections, interest groups, public opinion, and current domestic policy controversies. The course is designed to increase the student's awareness and understanding of the political process and the impact of race, gender, and ethnicity on it. In addition, the citizen's role within that process is discussed in light of a Christian worldview. This course is reading and writing intensive. Students should expect an average of 2 hours of work outside of class per school day.

AP/DE Government differs from other courses in the following ways:

- A significantly larger body of information is covered in this course.
- Students are responsible for reading and comprehending college-level textbook material and primary documents.
- Many assignments must be completed outside of class.
- Assessments and assignments require students to understand, analyze, and evaluate information in greater quantities and at deeper levels than is typical in regular courses.
- The pace of the course is fairly rapid.

This course prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those of full year introductory college courses. It is possible to earn college credit for AP/DE Government through a dual enrollment program or through successful completion of the AP exam in May.

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: Students are placed in AP/DE Government by recommendation from the previous year's United States History teacher.

Online Dual Enrollment Psychology 102A

We are excited to partner with Colorado Christian University to offer dual enrollment classes. This course provides an overview of the field of psychology, including psychological principles, methods, theories, and research broadly applied to various domains within the scope of psychology as a field. Topics from the biological basis of behavior to social applications of psychology are included.

This course will cost \$300 and upon completion will grant 3 highly transferable college credits

One semester – 0.5 credit | Prerequisites: None

V.I.N.E.

V.I.N.E. Algebra 1

The purpose of VINE Algebra 1 is to lay the foundation for all other math courses. The primary focus will be solving linear equations, inequalities, and applying them to real world situations. Coordinate geometry will be introduced. VINE Algebra 1 is a slower-paced, accommodated version of the regular education Algebra 1 course.

V.I.N.E. Basic Math

This is a course designed for students who have deficiencies that would prevent them from successfully accessing the curriculum in Pre-Algebra. It is specifically for students who need a basic understanding of mathematical concepts and operations.

V.I.N.E. Bible – New Testament

This course focuses on the New Testament and covers the intertestamental period, the basics of the Christian faith, life of Jesus, history of the early church, the Epistles and Revelation. V.I.N.E. Bible can be repeated for credit as needed in grades 9-12.

V.I.N.E. Content Enrichment

This is a resource class for students who have disabilities. Students in Content Enrichment receive study and organizational skills training, help with class work, Bible memory verses, homework, tests, quizzes, exams, and projects.

V.I.N.E. Earth Science

This course will be offered as an alternative to Chemistry and will meet the graduation requirements for one year of laboratory science. It covers topics such as: Astronomy, Meteorology, Geology, Oceanography, and Environmental Science. (OFFERED IN ALTERNATING YEARS WITH VINE BIOLOGY)

Full Year – 1.0 credit

V.I.N.E. English 1

This is a class for students who have disabilities in reading and/or written communication. Students in V.I.N.E. English 1 receive intense instruction and practice in vocabulary acquisition, grammar, reading comprehension, research skills and the writing process.

V.I.N.E. English 2

This is a class for students who have disabilities in reading and/or written communication. Students in V.I.N.E. English 2 receive intense instruction and practice in vocabulary acquisition, grammar, reading comprehension, research skills and the writing process.

V.I.N.E. Geometry

The purpose of VINE Geometry is to provide the general education geometry course with a reduced number of objectives, more time on each concept, and a differentiated format.

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 or VINE Algebra 1.

V.I.N.E. Integrated Science

This course is an accommodated version of the general education freshman level lab science course designed to give students a foundation for Chemistry and Physics. Herein the students will learn the basics of chemistry, including the makeup of matter, the periodic table, chemical reactions, and elements of organic chemistry. They will also delve into aspects of physics, including motion, speed, laws of motion and conservation, energy, force, and waves.

V.I.N.E. Intro to Algebra 2:

The purpose of VINE Introduction to Algebra 2 is to prepare students to take Algebra 2 or College Algebra in a regular, non-modified classroom setting. It is recommended for VINE students who have completed Geometry but are not ready for Algebra 2. The first semester of VINE Introduction to Algebra 2 will focus on skills from Algebra I. Solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities will be reviewed. Exponential equations and expressions will be explored. During the second quarter, there will be a strong emphasis on quadratic functions and equations, including solving and graphing quadratics. The second semester of VINE Introduction to Algebra 2 will focus on the first few concepts from Algebra 2. In addition to solving and graphing linear equations, the student will be able to solve and graph absolute value equations, as well as linear inequalities. Solving systems of linear equations and inequalities will be explored, and the student will use graphing, elimination, substitution, and matrices to solve. The final quarter of this course will focus on polynomial equations and expressions, including solving and graphing higher order polynomials.

V.I.N.E. Life Skills Math

This is a comprehensive coverage of basic math skills needed for everyday living. Students will learn about hourly pay, salary, taxes, budgeting, computing a discount, living expenses, and sales tax. Additional focus will be on fractions, decimals, and percents. Students will work in the VCS coffee shop weekly.

V.I.N.E. World History

This course is an accommodated version of the general education class that meets the graduation requirement. This is a survey class where students study history of man from a biblical perspective, gaining an understanding of how God has worked and is working in our world. Topics that are studied include the growth of world civilizations, medieval Europe, developments in Asia and Africa, the Renaissance and Reformation, the formation and growth of nations and empires, industrialism, imperialism, the world wars, the postwar world, and the opening of the 21st Century.