

# GRANVILLE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



2020-2021

## Course Description Catalog

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# INTRODUCTION

## PHILOSOPHY

Granville Christian Academy knows that education is a lifelong experience and that informed decision-making comes from the values set forth by godly adult guidance. In conjunction with this is the necessity of a supportive school environment, characterized by mutual respect among administration, staff, students, and families. Students come to know one another and become known by the adults who work with them. Although we have many denominations represented in our student body, we still maintain unity and mutual respect. We recognize that differences related to particular beliefs will arise, but realize that in these instances we are to refer students to their parents and home church for guidance.

Granville Christian Academy communicates its philosophy through the curriculum it teaches, the services it provides, the adult role models it offers, the guidelines and expectations it maintains, and the activities it sponsors.

### GRADUATION AWARDS

Granville Christian Academy presents specific awards to senior recipients at the GCA graduation ceremony. These awards recognize exceptional achievement in key areas. In order to be considered for any of the following awards, a student must have been in attendance at GCA for a minimum of two years during their high school years.

The awards and their criteria are as follows:

**Valedictorian** – one (1) graduating senior will be awarded this honor by the Administration after careful evaluation of the following requirements:

#### ***Class 2021***

1. First, the student must have taken all available ACP/AP courses offered at GCA during their GCA enrollment, with the exception of elective honors courses;
2. Then, the student must have the highest unweighted GPA;

If a tie exists after the first evaluation, then,

3. the student must have the highest cumulative weighted numeric average on a 100% scale, to the thousandth place, for all high school coursework taken while enrolled at GCA. For CCP or other non-GCA courses, the grade will be averaged as per the GCA scale as specified in the GCA College Credit Plus Program located on the school website.

If a tie still exists after the previously specified steps, more than one (1) Valedictorian may be awarded. In this case, there will be no Salutatorian.

### *Class 2022 and beyond*

1. First, the student must qualify for an Academic Honors Diploma;
2. And, the student must have taken all available ACP courses offered at GCA during their GCA enrollment;
  - a. CCP courses may not replace available ACP or AP courses offered at GCA;
  - b. Students who do not qualify for Algebra I in eighth grade may receive an exception if they complete an individualized plan that allows them to re-enter the ACP math track;
3. And, students must take at least three of the five following ACP/AP course offered at GCA: AP US History, AP English, AP Calculus, ACP Anatomy & Physiology, or ACP Physics.
4. Then, the student must have the highest unweighted GPA.

If a tie exists, then,

5. the student must have the highest cumulative weighted numeric average on a 100% scale, to the thousandth place, for all high school coursework taken while enrolled at GCA. For approved CCP or other approved non-GCA courses, the grade will be averaged as specified in the GCA College Credit Plus Program located on the school website.

If a tie still exists after the previously specified steps, more than one (1) Valedictorian may be awarded. In this case, there will be no Salutatorian.

## COLLEGE PREP (CP) COURSE OF STUDY

<u>Eighth Grade</u>	<u>Freshman</u>	<u>Sophomore</u>	<u>Junior</u>	<u>Senior</u>
Advanced Algebra I	ACP English 9 ACP Geometry	ACP English 10 ACP Biology ACP Algebra II	ACP English 11 ACP Pre-Calculus ACP Chemistry AP United States History	AP English

## MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

### GCA Diploma

To graduate with a diploma, a student must meet all of the GCA minimum graduation requirements.

Bible	4 units*
English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units <sup>1</sup>
Science	3 units <sup>2</sup>
Social Studies	3 units <sup>3</sup>
Electives	2 units <sup>4*</sup>
Fine Arts	1 unit
Foreign Language	2 units
Health	½ unit*
Physical Education	½ unit <sup>5*</sup>

Total of 24 graduation credits to complete.

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### GCA Academic Honors Diploma

To graduate with an academic honors diploma, a student must meet all GCA minimum graduation requirements in addition to fulfilling 7 of the 8 requirements listed below.

English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units <sup>6</sup>
Science	4 units <sup>7</sup>
Social Studies	4 units <sup>3</sup>
Fine Arts	1 unit
Foreign Language	3 units <sup>8</sup>
ACT/SAT Score	27 ACT/1280 SAT <sup>9</sup>
GPA	must be a minimum of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale

Minimum of 26 graduation credits\* to complete.



<sup>1</sup> **Mathematics** units must include 1 unit of Algebra II or its equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> **Science** units must include one unit of physical sciences, one unit of life sciences and one unit of advanced study.

<sup>3</sup> **Social Studies** units must include  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of American history,  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of American government, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit of personal finance.

<sup>4</sup> **Elective** units may be increased to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  units if using the PE exemption or decreased to reach the minimum credit requirements for an Academic Honors Diploma.

<sup>5</sup> **Physical Education** may be exempted by students who participate in interscholastic athletics or cheerleading for two full seasons.

<sup>6</sup> **Mathematics** units must include Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or another equivalent and another higher level course or a 4-year sequence of courses that contain equivalent content.

<sup>7</sup> **Science** units must include two units of advanced science.

<sup>8</sup> **Foreign language** requirement must include 3 units of one world language, or no less than 2 units of each of two world languages studied.

<sup>9</sup> Excluding scores from the writing section of each test.

\* Indicates minimum graduation requirements needed in addition to the Honors requirements listed.

## SAMPLE COURSES OF STUDY

The following courses are listed for example purposes only. Students may substitute listed elective courses for the **recommended electives**, as long as graduation requirements are met.

### COLLEGE PREP (CP) COURSE OF STUDY

<u>Freshman Year</u>	<u>Sophomore Year</u>	<u>Junior Year</u>	<u>Senior Year</u>
From Seeker to Believer	From Believer to Follower	From Follower to Friend	From Friend to Fisherman
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus
Physical Science	Biology	Chemistry	Government/Personal Finance
World History	Spanish II	American History	Digital Media/Politics
Spanish I	Health/Fine Arts Elective	Speech/Debate	Elective 201-301 (x2)
PE/Technology	Elective 101-201 (x2)	Elective 201-301/Fine Arts Elective	TA/Elective
Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall

**ADVANCED COLLEGE PREP (ACP) COURSE OF STUDY (BIBLE COURSES ARE CURRENTLY BUILDING TO THIS MODEL).**

<b><u>Eighth Grade Year</u></b>	<b><u>Freshman Year</u></b>	<b><u>Sophomore Year</u></b>	<b><u>Junior Year</u></b>	<b><u>Senior Year</u></b>
Advanced Algebra I	From Seeker to Believer	From Believer to Follower	From Follower to Friend	From Friend to Fisherman
	ACP English 9	ACP English 10	ACP English 11	AP English
	Physical Science	ACP Biology	ACP Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus
	ACP Geometry	ACP Algebra II	ACP Chemistry	Personal Finance/ Government
	World History	Spanish II	AP American History	ACP Anatomy & Physiology
	Spanish I	Health/Elective 101-201	Spanish III	ACP Physics
	Fine Arts Elective 101-201/Technology	World Geography/Politics	Speech/Debate	3D Design/Elective 201-301
	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall	Study Hall

## COURSE DESIGNATIONS

At this time, all core high school courses are designated as General Preparatory (GP) course, College Preparatory (CP) course, Advanced College Preparatory (ACP) course, or Advanced Placement (AP) course. Elective courses are categorized by the course requirements. CP classes are on a 4.0 scale, ACP courses are on a 4.5 scale, and AP classes are on a 5.0 scale. College Credit Plus (CCP) classes are on a scale that correlates to the highest level of coursework offered at GCA. Any Physical Education exemptions receive no credit but satisfy the Physical Education graduation requirement. For Pass/Fail classes, a 75% or higher is considered passing. Pass/fail classes are not calculated into GPA.

### ADVANCED COLLEGE PREP (ACP) COURSES

GCA offers a variety of advanced courses for high school students. Students must have achieved at least a B+ average in all general coursework that leads up to each ACP class or at least a B- average in the preceding ACP class as a requirement for enrollment unless otherwise designated in the course description. The approval of the Principal or teacher may be required, and individual classes may have additional requirements as specified in their course description.

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

GCA offers AP courses for high school students. Students must have achieved at least a B+ average in all general coursework that correlates to the AP course. A teacher recommendation is also required. Students who register and take the AP Exam will not be required to take a GCA Final Examination for the course. Students who score a 3 or higher (out of 5 possible) on the AP Exam will earn high school credit and may earn college credit, depending on the college that is accepting the score for credit. Any student opting not to take the AP Exam will be required to take a GCA Final Examination for the course which will be averaged into their final grade. AP course Final Examinations may not be exempted using the senior Exam exemption.

## ELECTIVE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

Elective offerings are classified by course requirements. Students are encouraged to choose from each of the first three elective levels while at GCA. Juniors and Seniors are strongly encouraged to choose electives in the 301 and 401 categories, as these courses will give exposure to career fields and help students determine their career path.

101 – Any elective categorized in this level heavily depends on class participation for grades. Little, if any, homework is assigned, few tests or quizzes are given, and no exam is administered. This class will meet the elective graduation requirement; however, the class is considered General Preparatory (GP), is graded as a Pass/Fail class, and will not be averaged into the student's GPA.

201 -- Any elective categorized in this level may include some class participation for grades. Homework may be assigned regularly, and tests, quizzes, and projects will be minimal, and no exam is administered. This class will meet the elective graduation requirement. The class will be graded on a 4.0 scale and will be averaged into the student's GPA.

301 -- Any elective categorized in this level includes regular and rigorous homework. Tests, quizzes, projects will be given regularly, and an exam or final project will be administered. This class will meet the elective graduation requirement, is considered to be a College Prep (CP) course, will be graded on a 4.0 scale, and will be averaged into the student's GPA.

401 -- Any elective categorized in this level includes regular and rigorous homework at the Advanced College Prep (ACP) level. Tests and Quizzes will be given regularly, and an exam or final project will be administered. This class will meet the elective graduation requirement, is considered to be an ACP course, will be graded on a 4.5 scale, and will be averaged into the student's GPA.

# Course Offerings

## BIBLE

### FROM SEEKER TO BELIEVER: 9TH GRADE – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

The focus of this class is to invite students to build a solid foundation of belief in the person of Christ. Students will examine the foundational elements of faith systems and understand the foundational distinctions of a Christ-centered worldview. Students will be challenged to apply the definitions of faith and truth in their examination of the Bible as God's inerrant revelation.

### FROM BELIEVER TO FOLLOWER: 10TH GRADE – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: From Seeker to Believer

Students will understand that Jesus is our model of spiritual maturity and that He invited us to follow His model for spiritual transformation. Students will understand the significance of each of Christ's major invitations in the process of Transformation and learn how to apply each invitation to their daily lives. Through the process of the eight units of the course students are invited to personalize their response to Christ's invitation: Follow, Me and I will make you fishers of men (Mark 1:17).

### FROM FOLLOWER TO FRIEND: 11TH & 12TH GRADES – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: From Seeker to Follower & From Believer to Follower

Students will examine the Life of Christ to gain more full perspective and understanding on the person and work of Jesus Christ. Through the course students are invited to personalize their response to Christ's question, "Who do you say that I am?"

## (COMING IN 2021/2022): FROM FRIEND TO FISHERMAN: 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE – 1

credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: From Seeker to Follower, From Believer to Follower, & From Follower to Friend

Students will be challenged and equipped to articulate what and why they believe and to communicate a reasoned faith in a contemporary culture of competing world-views.

## COMPUTER & TECHNOLOGY

### 3D DESIGN 301 – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

In 3D design, students will study the history of 3-dimensional art work from ancient times to modern 3D printing techniques. The first part of 3D Design will conclude with an art history research paper. Following the study of 3 dimensional art history, the class will focus on modern computer-based mediums. These studies will begin with basic graphic design terminology and processes using Tinkercad, followed by digging deeper into design with 123Design and blender software platforms. Once platform mastery has been achieved, students will take a look at incorporating 3D printers as a primary art medium. The course will conclude with two primary projects and a final exam project; each project will include a peer review and revision process as well as incorporation of additional mediums. This technology course also fulfills fine arts graduation requirements.

### DIGITAL MEDIA: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201 -- ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Technology or equivalent experience, to be evaluated by the course instructor.

Students will work through a series of weekly lessons through hands-on software training. Included are numerous premium video training clips to enrich each lesson from *Adobe Classroom in a Book* for Photoshop and Premiere Pro. The software training will help students learn the

features of Adobe software quickly and easily. The curriculum covers countless tips and techniques to help students become more productive in Adobe CS6 software. In addition, the students will be using their skills to prepare the senior graduation slide show/video which will be presented during the graduation ceremonies. This technology course also fulfills fine arts graduation requirements.

### **LEGO ROBOTICS: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** -- ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

In this class, students will interact with the Lego EV3 robotics platform. Students in this class will gain an entry-level understanding of robotic design, function, and coding. Students will learn to use block code to make their robots move in a variety of directions and perform basic functions. Each segment of learning will be paired with a robot challenge to assess their ability understanding of the concepts. Students will use logic, critical thinking, problem solving, and basic math skills in this course. In addition to the robot challenges and concept assignments, students will write a high school-level research paper relevant to our subject matter.

### **TECHNOLOGY: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** -- ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

Students will study the history of the computer; internet safety; and cyber ethics including identity protection, online etiquette, cyberbullying search strategies, and evaluating websites. In addition, students will develop skills in keyboarding and coding with Scratch. Finally, students will explore the Google Classroom environment to help prepare them for classroom technology needs.

## **FINE ARTS**

### **3D DESIGN: ELECTIVE LEVEL 301** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Lego Robotics is preferred.



In 3D design, students will study the history of 3-dimensional art work from ancient times to modern 3D printing techniques. The first part of 3D Design will conclude with an art history research paper. Following the study of 3 dimensional art history, the class will focus on modern computer-based mediums. These studies will begin with basic graphic design terminology and processes using Tinkercad, followed by digging deeper into design with 123Design and blender software platforms. Once platform mastery has been achieved, students will take a look at incorporating 3D printers as a primary art medium. The course will conclude with two primary projects and a final exam project; each project will include a peer review and revision process as well as incorporation of additional mediums. This technology course also fulfills fine arts graduation requirements.

**ART I: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit  
1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)  
Prerequisite -- None

In this course, students will combine art history with various medium to develop an appreciation for art as well as art making. This class fulfills fine arts graduation requirements.

**DIGITAL MEDIA: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** -- ½ credit  
1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)  
Prerequisite: Technology or equivalent experience, to be evaluated by the course instructor.

Students will work through a series of weekly lessons through hands-on software training. Included are numerous premium video training clips to enrich each lesson from *Adobe Classroom in a Book* for Photoshop and Premiere Pro. The software training will help students learn the features of Adobe software quickly and easily. The curriculum covers countless tips and techniques to help students become more productive in Adobe CS6 software. In addition, the students will be using their skills to prepare the senior graduation slide show/video which will be presented during the graduation ceremonies. This technology course also fulfills fine arts graduation requirements.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Students must take two years of the same language to meet graduation requirements. If students choose to take a language option other than Spanish, they must complete a Credit-Flex Educational Option application and receive approval by the administration before beginning the course. An academic honors diploma requires three years of the same language or two years of two different languages.

### SPANISH I – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite -- None

This course is designed to provide basic information that allows students to form the foundation for developing proficiency in Spanish. The course is designed to meet the five “C’s” of the national standards for foreign languages: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The course will cover basic vocabulary and expressions and the conjugation of present tense verbs. Additionally, students will discover the culture that accompanies the Spanish language.

### SPANISH II – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Students build on the foundation of Spanish I in this course, striving to mix interactive activities with a progression to meaningful communication in realistic situations. The course also expands students’ understanding of the civilization, culture, and customs of Spanish speaking people. In addition to new vocabulary, the conjugation of verbs in the past tense, along with other useful grammatical points, will be covered. The course gives students a basic understanding of the Spanish language through listening, speaking, reading, and writing instruction.

### SPANISH III – 1 credit

Full year -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Spanish II

This course furthers the knowledge of students' language skills through review of the fundamentals of Spanish language structure and by emphasizing oral reading comprehension and self-expression in speaking and writing. There will also be an introduction to the future tense, the conditional tense, and the subjunctive mood. The students' reading materials will give them a panoramic view of the literature and culture of Spanish-speaking people. Students may take this course to fulfill the Foreign Language requirement for an Academic Honors Diploma.

## LANGUAGE ARTS

Students must choose one English course per year to meet graduation requirements (ACP or CP).

### ACP ENGLISH 9 – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have an A or B average in English 8 and be recommended by the English 8 teacher.

In this course, students study all of the content covered in the CP English 9 class at a faster pace which allows for coverage of additional content, providing a foundation for the study of literature and composition. Through the study of various short stories, poetry, dramas, and novels, students will develop knowledge of literary terms and techniques, giving them the skills to analyze literature and develop advanced close-reading techniques. Students will explore literature through the study of Mitch Albom's *Tuesday's with Morrie*, Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. With a strong focus on polishing grammar skills, the course will further serve as a workshop to develop the more sophisticated grammar and writing skills needed throughout high school and college with an emphasis on writing as a process. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary-building program. This course is recommended for those interested in Advanced Placement (AP) or College Credit Plus (CCP) courses as upperclassmen.

### ACP ENGLISH 10 – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course – (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have a grade of C+ or above in ACP English 9, or students must have an A or B average in CP English 9 and be recommended by the CP English 9 teacher.

This course is designed to build on the concepts established in ACP English 9 or CP English 9, preparing students for more complex and detailed reading and writing assignments. As in ACP English 9, the course moves at a more rapid pace than CP English 10, allowing for more thorough study and additional content. The course constitutes the last year of concentrated focus on grammar skills. Through the study of various short stories, poetry, dramas, and novels, students will build on their knowledge of literary terms and techniques, increasing their skills in analyzing literature and developing advanced close-reading techniques. Students will explore literature through the study of Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*, George Elliot's *Silas Marner*, Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Black Arrow*, and Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Students will further develop formal writing skills with an emphasis on paragraph development, exposition, clarity, and coherence through a variety of process-based writing assignments. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary-building program. This course is recommended for those interested in Advanced Placement (AP) or College Credit Plus (CCP) courses as upperclassmen.

### ACP ENGLISH 11 – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have a grade of C+ or above in ACP English 10, or students must have an A or B average in CP English 10 and be recommended by the English 10 teacher. In addition, students must complete the summer package by the start of school.

This course provides students with an in depth study of literature through short stories, poems, novels, and a Shakespearean play. Students will explore literature and develop their close-reading skills through a study of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. The students will develop and enhance their ability to critique and analyze literature through process-based writing

in addition to identifying literary techniques and improving close-reading skills. Students continue to review grammar concepts with a focus on applying grammar skills to writing. Students will polish their presentation skills through projects which develop both presentation-building skills and oral reporting. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary-building program. This course is designed to move quickly and prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP) or College Credit Plus (CCP) courses as upperclassmen.

### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION** – 1 credit

Full year with summer work – Required course (5.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have achieved at least a B+ average in all general coursework that correlates to the AP course and receive a teacher recommendation.

AP Literature and Composition is a senior English course designed for the serious student of English. This course is, in part, an assimilation of skills, concepts, and information taught in the previous high school English courses. The major emphasis is on close-reading skills in conjunction with composition and writing in order to prepare students for the rigor of college courses. Through the development of individual skills and group activities, the students learn to become comfortable sharing ideas and their own personal writing. Students will be expected to read nightly and write often. Projects will include presentations, interpretive teachings, and oral reports. Literary emphasis is on thoughtful and critical analysis of literature. Any student taking the course will take the AP Literature and Composition exam. Certain scores on this exam can potentially earn the student college credit.

### **CP ENGLISH 9** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

CP English 9 provides a foundation for the study of literature and composition. Through the study of short story, poetry, drama, and the novel, the students will develop knowledge of literary terms and techniques, giving them the skills to analyze literature. Students will explore literature through the study of Mitch Albom's *Tuesday's with Morrie*, Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. This year is a

foundational year in building grammar skills. The course will further serve as a workshop to develop the grammar and writing skills needed throughout high school in preparation for college with an emphasis on writing as a process. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary building program.

### **CP ENGLISH 10** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (scale 4.0)

Prerequisite: CP English 9 or ACP English 9

CP English 10 is designed to prepare students for more complex and detailed reading and writing assignments. Students will study major literary forms such as the short story, novel, biography, poetry, and a Shakespearean play. Students will explore literature through the study of Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations*, George Elliot's *Silas Marner*, Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Black Arrow*, and Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. The course includes the last year of concentrated focus on grammar skills. Students will further develop formal writing skills with emphasis on paragraph development, exposition, clarity, and coherence through a variety of process-based writing assignments. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary building program.

### **CP ENGLISH 11** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (scale 4.0)

Prerequisite: CP English 9 and CP English 10 or ACP English 9 and ACP English 10

This course continues to build on previously developed English skills. Students will explore literature and develop their close-reading skills through a study of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. The students will develop and enhance their ability to critique and analyze literature through process-based writing in addition to identifying literary techniques and improving close reading skills. Students begin to review grammar concepts, identifying weak areas and focusing on learning in these areas. Instruction will be intentional toward applying grammar skills to writing. Students will polish their presentation skills through projects which develop both presentation-building skills and oral reporting. Students study

vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary building program.

### **CP ENGLISH 12** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: CP English 9, CP English 10, and CP English 11 or ACP English 9, ACP English 10, and ACP English 11

The purpose of CP English 12 is to prepare senior students for the demanding nature of college course work, as well as to equip them with effective communication tools, which are necessary in all aspects of life. This course is provided to review the necessary skills in writing and the importance of words and their relationships within the sentence. Preparation for college-level writing assignments will include a comprehensive review and application of various writing styles. Literature is analyzed and discussed in the light of God's Word and includes short stories, poems, and plays, as well as in-depth study of C.S. Lewis's *The Screwtape Letters*, Ayn Rand's *Anthem*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, and Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Also included is a Senior mentorship which encourages and allows students maintaining a B average or higher to explore a career of their choice off campus. Students not qualifying for an off-campus mentorship will research a career of their choice. Students will share their experiences/research in a senior project and presentation. Students study vocabulary through individual placement in membean, an online vocabulary building program.

### **DEBATE: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Speech is preferred

This course is designed to teach students the basic modes and concepts of debate. Whatever career path students choose, they will at various times be called upon to communicate their beliefs in a coherent and engaging way. Therefore, it is important that each student master the confidence, poise, and skills necessary to debate effectively. Students in this course will participate in communications ranging from group dynamics and parliamentary procedure to debates.

### **SPEECH: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite -- None

This course is designed to teach students the basic types of public speaking. Whatever career path students choose, they will at various times be called upon to communicate in a public setting or format. Therefore, it is important that each of them master the confidence, poise, and skills necessary to communicate effectively. Students in this course will participate in various communication styles and opportunities.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students must choose one mathematics course per year to meet graduation requirements (ACP or CP).

### **CP ALGEBRA I** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: High school students must be recommended by the Math Department for this course. Advanced middle school students will be identified for Algebra I through a testing process at the conclusion of 7th grade and must be recommended by the Math Department for this course.

As in CP Algebra I, students will be introduced to topics such as linear equations and inequalities, graphing functions, systems of equations and inequalities, exponents, quadratic functions, polynomials, factoring, and radicals, probability and data analysis. Students will use their knowledge of functions to model real-world situations, yet they will progress more rapidly with increased expectations. Due to the advanced pacing, students in this course will cover more concepts, helping to prepare those students interested in careers requiring advanced mathematic skills. This course establishes the skills necessary for success on the ACT/SAT tests, as well as equipping students to build a foundation of math skills necessary for college readiness. A graphing calculator is required.



### CP GEOMETRY – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course begins with a proof-based introduction to geometry involving drawings and constructions. Students will discover and apply relationships involving lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and regular polygons. Then the students will move on to more problem-based material including coordinate geometry, ratios and proportions, trigonometry, transformations, and probability. Algebra is consistently embedded in this course. A graphing calculator is required.

### ACP GEOMETRY – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Algebra I. Students in the CP Algebra track wishing to take ACP courses must be recommended by the Math Department.

This course begins with a proof-based introduction to geometry involving drawings and constructions. Students will discover and apply relationships involving lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and regular polygons. Then the students will move on to more problem-based material including coordinate geometry, ratios and proportions, trigonometry, transformations, and probability. Algebra is consistently embedded in this course. ACP Geometry moves at a faster pace and explores mathematical concepts further than CP Geometry, with a greater emphasis on proofs. A graphing calculator is required.

### ALGEBRA II – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course of study includes linear functions and inequalities, graphing, systems of equations, quadratic functions and factoring, polynomials, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, an overview of conic sections, probability, and series and sequences. A graphing calculator is required.

### **ACP ALGEBRA II** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: ACP Algebra I and ACP Geometry. Students in the CP Algebra track wishing to take ACP courses must be recommended by the Math Department.

This more in-depth course of study includes linear functions and inequalities, graphing, systems of equations, quadratic functions and factoring, polynomials, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, conic sections, probability, and series and sequences. ACP Algebra II moves at a faster pace and explores mathematical concepts further than CP Algebra II. A graphing calculator is required.

### **ACP PRE-CALCULUS** – 1 credit

Full year – Required course 4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: ACP Algebra II and ACP Geometry. Students in the CP mathematics track wishing to take ACP courses must be recommended by the Math Department.

In this course, the students will do an overview of functions but spend the large portion of the year learning to solve and graph trigonometric functions as well as prove their identities. Basic vector operations, polar coordinates, complex numbers and exponential/logarithmic functions make up the latter part of the year, giving students a foundation for Calculus. A graphing calculator is required.

### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) CALCULUS** – 1 credit

Full year -- Recommended course (5.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus with an A or B average.

AP Calculus is a senior-level course approved by the College Board. Calculus is the study of limits, and is divided into two basic types, differential and integral. This course covers both types and is roughly equivalent to the first semester of college-level Calculus. Any student taking the course will take the AP Calculus exam. Certain scores on this exam can potentially earn the student college credit.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION I – ¼ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course is completed during 7<sup>th</sup> grade over the course of 1 semester. Completion of this course will count as ¼ credit toward the ½ credit required for graduation. All students must daily wear required PE uniform as specified in the Parent/Student Handbook. A total of ½ physical education credit is required for graduation.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION II – ¼ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

Completion of this course will count as ¼ credit toward the ½ credit required for graduation. All students must daily wear required PE uniform as specified in the Parent/Student Handbook. A total of ½ physical education credit is required for graduation.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION HS 1 – ¼ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course is completed during high school over the course of 1 semester. This course will be offered according to student interest and availability. Completion of this course will count as ¼ credit toward the ½ credit required for graduation. All students must wear the required PE uniform as specified in the Parent/Student Handbook. Students still needing PE credit after completing Physical Education I or II may choose to complete their Physical Education graduation requirement by completing this course (if available) OR by completing the Physical Fitness course (offered through Ignitia).

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION HS 2 – ¼ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Total of ½ credit required for graduation.

Physical Fitness (Ignitia course) is an elective designed for high school students. The course focuses on the health benefits of regular physical

activity and of a long term exercise program. As students work through the course, they will learn about the many aspects of physical fitness, including basic nutrition, the importance of flexibility, cardiovascular health, muscle and strength training, and realistic goal setting. Along the way, students will be required to maintain and submit an activity log in order to measure progress in course exercises, as well as in personal fitness goals.

**PHYSICAL FITNESS WAIVER** – 0 credit

2 seasons – Completed at 75% participation or greater

Student athletes may choose to waive the physical fitness graduation requirement by participating in two seasons of athletics through GCA-sponsored sports teams. This option may not be combined with the Physical Education options to complete the requirement. Students using the Physical Fitness Waiver must take additional coursework to equal the required graduation credits. Additional information and Waiver Forms are available in the high school office.

**HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH (IGNITIA COURSE)** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

High School Health is a health science elective course that introduces students to what good health is, why good health is important, and what students should do in order to achieve good health. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to do the following: Demonstrate an awareness of health as it applies to their own bodies, minds, and emotions; demonstrate an awareness of health as it applies to their living environments; identify the components of a healthy lifestyle and set reasonable goals to achieve a lifestyle of wellness; understand that incorporating sound health practices creates a lifestyle of moderation and wellness; understand the responsibility of properly stewarding the bodies God has given them as directed in the Bible; and describe health as it applies to broader society, the world, and their own responsibility to stimulate good health around them. Course fees for this class are included in student tuition.

**SPORTS LEADERSHIP: ELECTIVE LEVEL 101** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (P/F)

Prerequisite: None

Students will study the Captains Course which was created with the help of Michigan State University's Institute for the Study of Youth Sports and the Michigan High School Athletic Association for the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). This course was created to help develop high school team leaders. Student-athletes are prominently featured via on-screen hosts and captain interviews throughout the ten-segment curriculum, while participants learn about leadership skills and reflect on and the important role of the team captain. In addition, the students will be introduced to a variety of current athletic leaders through discussion and video presentations.

## SCIENCE

Students must complete a total of three science courses to meet graduation requirements, or they must complete four science courses for an Academic Honors Diploma.

### ACP ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY: ELECTIVE LEVEL 401 – 1 credit

Full year -- Elective course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum average of a B+ in Biology and Chemistry (other sciences must receive approval) and must receive a teacher recommendation to be placed in this course.

This senior-level course is a great primer for future health professionals and for students interested in how the human body functions. Anatomy & Physiology focuses on the elegance and efficiency of the healthy person and demonstrates what happens when things go wrong. This course stimulates critical thinking and introduces medical vocabulary. Anatomy & Physiology showcases the beauty and connectedness of each body system. The course covers the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, lymphatic, respiratory, circulatory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. The advanced pacing and rigorous requirements of this course are designed to prepare students for college-level work as well as establishing a strong foundation for those entering medical fields.

### **ACP BIOLOGY** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Physical and Environmental Science; students must have an A or B average in CP Physical Science and be recommended by the Science Department.

ACP Biology is an accelerated Biology course designed for the serious student of science. This advanced course is, in part, an assimilation of skills, concepts, and information taught in the Physical Science course. The emphasis is on going deeper and more rapidly into the areas covered in Biology in order to prepare students for the demands of college coursework. With the guidance of labs and group activities, students learn to share their own ideas and discoveries in this field.

### **ACP CHEMISTRY** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: ACP Biology and Algebra II (Algebra II can be taken in conjunction with this course); students must have a grade of C or above in ACP Biology or have an A or B average in CP Biology and be recommended by the Science Department.

ACP Chemistry is an accelerated Chemistry course designed for the serious student of science. This advanced course is, in part, an assimilation of skills, concepts, and information taught in the previous high school science courses. The major emphasis is on an in-depth study of chemistry at a more rapid pace in order to prepare students for the demands of college coursework. With the guidance of labs and group activities, students learn to share their own ideas and discoveries in this field. Lab reports, along with student findings, will be a large portion of the grade.

### **ACP PHYSICS: ELECTIVE LEVEL 401** – 1 credit

Full year -- Elective course (4.5 scale)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II; students must have a grade of C or above in ACP Chemistry or have an A or B average in CP Chemistry and be recommended by the Science Department.

This senior-level course explores how God's methods of creation and maintenance of His universe are both systematic and consistent. By using the natural laws God has put in place, we are able to study and predict the results of many physical actions. This course studies the law

of motion, energy, light, sound, heat, and particle interaction, as well as the exploration of the wave action of both mechanical and electromagnetic waves, and the fundamentals of electricity. The course is focused around math and lab experiments and will involve lab activities.

### **CP BIOLOGY** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required Course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Physical Science

From the simplicity of a one-celled bacterium to the complexity of the human body, this course will take students through the principles of life science in organisms. Students will survey the plant and animal kingdoms, be introduced to microbiology and genetics, the study the life, and processes of individual cells. In the study of all life there is the evidence of the power and creativity of God, and this class will show how he reveals Himself to us through creation. This course will involve lab activities.

### **CP CHEMISTRY** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Biology or Honors Biology and Algebra II (Algebra II can be taken in conjunction with this course)

Students in this course will study the basic concepts of chemistry, including atomic structure, chemical bonding, and reactions. Chemical concepts are at the foundation of all life processes, and students will learn how chemistry is experienced every day around us. The order and mathematical nature of chemistry show us the precision and order of God's character displayed through creation. This course will involve lab activities.

### **CP PHYSICAL SCIENCE** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students will study the interactions of motion, acceleration, speed, gravity, and forces. Additionally, Students will learn how these principles interact with simple machines, magnetism, and electricity. Ninth grade physical science is a modified project-based learning class. For each segment of this course completed includes a

project that demonstrates student understanding and level of mastery of the scientific principles. Students will display their level of understanding in grade appropriate Egg Drop, Rube Goldberg, and Mag Lev projects.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

Students must complete a total of three social studies courses to meet graduation requirements, or they must complete four social studies courses for an Academic Honors Diploma. Units must include ½ unit of American history, ½ unit of American government, and ½ unit of personal finance.

### AP UNITED STATES HISTORY – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (5.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Recommendation by Social Studies Department

AP U.S. History is a junior Social Studies course designed for the serious social studies student. The course focuses on the development of disciplinary practices and reasoning skills and an understanding of content organized around seven themes: American and National Identity; Politics and Power; Work, Exchange, and Technology; Culture and Society; Migration and Settlement; Geography and the Environment; America in the World. Any student taking the course will take the AP United States History exam. Certain scores on this exam can potentially earn the student college credit.

### CP AMERICAN HISTORY – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course examines the history of the United States of America from 1877 to the present. The federal republic has withstood challenges to its national security and expanded the rights and roles of its citizens. The episodes of its past have shaped the nature of the country today and prepared it to attend to the challenges of tomorrow. Understanding how these events came to pass and their meaning for today's citizens is the purpose of this course. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with students locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple



perspectives to draw conclusions. All of these concepts will be tempered with the Christian worldview perspective according to God's expectations set forth in the Bible.

### **CP GOVERNMENT** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: World History and American History

This required course is a study of the intricacies of our American governmental system, its history, purpose, and application to our lives as citizens of the United States government. Students will learn foundations of this nation's government, and how it applies to us as Christians and citizens.

### **CP WORLD HISTORY** – 1 credit

Full year -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course examines world events from 1600 to present. It explores the impact of the democratic and industrial revolutions, the forces that led to world domination by European powers, the wars that changed empires, the ideas that led to independence movements, and the effects of global interdependence. The concepts of historical thinking introduced in earlier grades continue to build with students locating and analyzing primary and secondary sources from multiple perspectives to draw conclusions. All of these concepts will be tempered with the Christian worldview perspective according to God's expectations set forth in the Bible.

### **CP PERSONAL FINANCE** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Required course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

Students enrolled in this required course will participate in action-oriented lessons making decisions about earning an income, saving and spending, using credit, and budgeting. All instruction and lessons in this class will be tied to the Biblical perspective on money and financial literacy requirements set by the state of Ohio. Featured topics will include evaluating career choices, making responsible spending decisions, applying for a job, using credit wisely, the cost of spending versus saving, car loans, home loans, retirement, and insurance.

Additionally, students will complete a year-end budget project demonstrating their understanding of financial literacy from a Biblical perspective.

**POLITICAL BEHAVIOR & PUBLIC OPINION: ELECTIVE LEVEL 301** – ½ credit  
1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course will review the role of political parties in the United States, and analyze the meaning and function of public opinion and political behavior. Students will learn how both public opinion and political behavior relate to American democracy, and gain a better understanding of how citizens of the United States can interact with and impact their government.

**WORLD GEOGRAPHY: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit  
1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course builds on current understanding of geography and spatial thinking. Contemporary issues are explored through the lens of geography. In addition to understanding where physical and cultural features are located and why those features are located as they are, students will examine the implications of these spatial arrangements. All of these concepts will be tempered with the Christian Worldview and Creation Science perspectives according to God's expectations set forth in the Bible.

## **GENERAL ELECTIVES**

**CAREER EXPLORATION: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit  
1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course offers students the opportunity to discover their God-breathed natural talents, abilities, and aptitudes, explore their career possibilities, and understand their college options and entrance requirements. Students will take class time to research and discover their spiritual gifting and their abilities through online assessments and surveys. Additionally, students will research the Occupational Outlook

Handbook to study trends of the industries that they are considering. Students also will have the opportunity to research colleges, their program offerings, financial aid, and the process of college applications.

**FAMILY GROUPS: ELECTIVE LEVEL 101** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to offer the mature Christian student a chance to invest themselves in the Spiritual growth of the Kindergarten through Fifth Grade student population. By prayerfully preparing a weekly lesson focused on a single Biblical attribute of our Lord, students then model and teach the characteristic during a thirty-minute session to a joint group of the younger students. Games, crafts, skits, or dramas may be an additional aspect of this lesson. A friendly incentive is included by classroom teachers when they award “ping pong balls” for displays of relevant behavior. This course may be taken as a repeat class for elective credit upon administrative approval.

**IGNITIA: ELECTIVE LEVELS 101-301** – ½ to 1 credit

1 semester or Full year -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: varies per course

GCA is pleased to be able to offer a wide variety of electives through Ignitia – “a versatile online Christian curriculum and learning management system with dynamic, Christ-centered lessons and interactive features.” Students will be able to sign up for classes and will be able to complete them during available study hall time or at home; anywhere, really – as long as they have internet connectivity. Students taking Ignitia courses will be monitored by a GCA teacher who will help to ensure that students are successful in their course: tracking their assignment schedules and grades, entering grades into GCA’s grading system, etc. General elective courses will be graded on a 4.0 scale with the exception of ACT Prep which is a Pass/Fail class. All Technical & Career Education courses are Pass/Fail. Certain Ignitia courses may be included in the regular GCA tuition; other Ignitia courses may require separate payment.

**ITALIAN: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

This course covers basic concepts and structure of the Italian language, as well as look into the various customs and lifestyles of Italians living throughout the different regions of Italy. This course will focus on reading, writing, listening, and speaking the language, so that by the end of the course students will be able to communicate in Italian at a basic level. This 201-level elective includes regular grades but will not include a final examination.

**LIFE SKILLS: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – ½ credit

1 semester – Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: None

Students in this course will develop knowledge and skills necessary for everyday living. The course emphasizes goal-setting, decision making and problem solving, communication, healthy lifestyles and relationships, nutrition, personal safety, citizenship, and consumerism.

**TECH ASSISTANT 101** – ¼ credit

1 semester – Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Students must have technology skills and must be recommended by the Technology Director.

The Tech Assistant program is available to junior and senior students first and to underclassmen only if additional help is needed. This opportunity exists for students to serve as an assistant to the IT Director on a semester basis. Duties vary according to the assignment. Students must remain academically eligible according to the guidelines in the Parent/Student Handbook. Students may receive at most 1.0 high school credit for any combination of tech or teaching assisting.

**TEACHING ASSISTANT 101** – ¼ credit

1 semester -- Elective course (4.0 scale)

Prerequisite: Training may be required before beginning this elective.

The Teaching Assistant program is available to junior and senior students first and underclassmen according to need. This opportunity exists for students to serve as an assistant/tutor to a classroom teacher on a semester basis. Students assigned as Teaching Assistants will be

assigned to a specific teacher(s) during a study hall period and will have duties daily. Duties vary according to the assignment. Students must remain academically eligible according to the guidelines in the Parent/Student Handbook. Students may receive at most 1.0 high school credit for any combination of teaching or tech assisting.

### **TEACHING HELPER 101** – 0 credit

1 semester -- Elective course

Prerequisite: Training may be required before beginning this elective.

The Teaching Helper program is available to students who are willing to help a teacher who may need help more sporadically. Students assigned as Teaching Helpers will be assigned to a specific teacher(s) during a study hall period and will have duties as the teacher has needs. The remainder of the time will be spent as a study hall. This opportunity exists for students to serve on a semester basis. Duties vary according to the assignment. Students must remain academically eligible according to the guidelines in the Parent/Student Handbook.

### **YEARBOOK: ELECTIVE LEVEL 201** – 1 credit

Full year -- Elective course (4.0)

Prerequisite: Digital Photography (preferred); recommendation from the Advisor.

This course is designed for GCA students who have a strong interest to learn about design, layout, editing, and copy writing of publications. Students participating in this course will be responsible for creating the GCA *Majesty* yearbook through the use of an online publication software and the Lifetouch website. Students will be expected to cover events DURING and AFTER school hours and to come in during the SUMMER to finish layouts if necessary. This course will offer an office environment and offer the experience of working on deadline schedules, group projects, news reporting, interviewing techniques, independent projects, photography assignments, time management skills, journalism, and creative production. Juniors and seniors will be given priority enrollment; however, sophomore and freshman students may be admitted upon advisor approval. This course may be taken as a repeat class for elective credit upon administrative approval.



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