



Heritage Christian Academy Secondary Curriculum

Christian education begins with the study of God’s Word. It is His Word that consecrates and inspires the mind and builds character and illuminates the pathways of thinking and reasoning. Therefore God’s Word is at the heart of education at Heritage Christian Academy. This educational approach requires one to consider and ponder the purpose for everything in God’s universe. Such reflection demands time. It also demands that we study and integrate God’s Truths into our lives and the lives of our students, as well as into the subjects we teach.

Just as God gave the Old Testament with its Moral Law and rules to govern Moses and the children of Israel – a comprehensive body of laws or principles by which they could direct their personal and national lives, and determine the rightness or wrongness of their choices and actions – so God gave the “whole counsel” of both the Law and the Gospel to both Jew and Gentile for the salvation and direction of all men and nations.

“Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or by epistle” (II Thessalonians 2:15).

Our curricular framework that adheres to the following key distinctives:

- Developing an education program that begins with Truth (2 Cor. 10:5; John 14:6)
- Gaining the mind of Christ in education (Phil. 2:5; Rom. 12:1-2)
- Searching God’s Word for His standards (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Deut. 6:3-7)
- Instructing to facilitate Biblical reasoning (2 Tim. 2:15; James 1:22)
- Building a living curriculum upon Christian character and conscience (Phil. 4:8; Eph. 6:4)

The instructional pathway of instruction includes researching, relating, reasoning, and recording. Biblical understanding of content is foundational to helping students value learning and develop authentic faith.

Intended Learning Outcomes

The main intent of secondary school is to equip and nurture students to be ambassadors for Christ in the 21st century. The Intended Learning Outcomes described below reflect the belief that secondary education should address the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, physical, and aesthetic development of students. By nurturing development in these interrelated human domains, students will have the opportunity to prepare to serve God according to His purposes.

It is our goal that through the learning experiences of HCA students will . . .

1. Develop and a personal relationship with God a Biblical worldview.
 - a. Recognize God's forgiveness of our sins and understand that Jesus came to earth to bring eternal life.
 - b. Understand the Bible is the source of all truth.
 - c. Memorize foundational Bible verses and passages.
 - d. Develop a Biblical worldview as they reason Biblically in all content areas, participate in chapels, service projects, and Bible study.
 - e. Practice articulation and oral defense of applied principles of Christianity.
 - f. Use tools for Bible study—concordances, maps, graphic organizers, etc..
 - g. Experience the power of collective prayer and learn how to develop a personal prayer life.
 - h. Develop habits of personal devotion that will nourish the student spiritually throughout life and foster love for God's Word.
 - i. Analyze life's situations and choices and make personal decisions that enhance Biblical Christian living.
 - j. Develop a heart for servant leadership through various academic, educational, and extra-curricular opportunities in which students learn genuine love and respect for one another and demonstrate compassion and concern for others and the world at large.
 - k. Learn to use the Bible to communicate the joy of the Gospel and share beliefs with others.
2. Demonstrate Christian self-governance and respectful social and skills
 - a. Follow school and classroom rules and policies.
 - b. Respect the individuality of others.
 - c. Lovingly include others in learning and social activities.
 - d. Participate with others when making decisions and solving problems.
 - e. Express personal individuality in positive ways.
3. Cultivate academic abilities by striving to meet the academic standards within the school curriculum.
 - a. Reinforce good character formation through practice of neatness, carefulness, order, and intellectual honesty.
 - b. Practice personal responsibility for learning.
 - c. Demonstrate persistence in completing tasks.
 - d. Display a sense of curiosity, enthusiasm, and appreciation for academic tasks.
 - e. Demonstrate aesthetic awareness.
 - f. Recognize how content ideas interconnect.
 - g. Make connections from content areas to application in real life.

Grade 7 & 8 Requirements

| Requirements | Grade 7 | Grade 8 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 years of Bible | Old Testament Survey | New Testament Survey |
| 3 years of English | English 7 Composition | English 8 |
| 2 years of History | Geography | US History |
| 2 years of Math | Pre-Algebra | Algebra 1 |
| 2 years of Science | Physical Science | Anatomy and Physiology |
| 1 year of Foreign Language | | Introduction to Spanish |

Elective Choices: art, concert band, drama, Latin vocabulary, Fitness for Life, World War II Literature, teacher aid, study hall .

High School Requirements

| Requirements | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 4 years of Bible | Christian Doctrines I | Christian Doctrines II | Worldviews I | Worldviews II |
| 4 years of English | Intro. to Literature | World Literature | U.S. Literature AP Literature | Literary Analysis AP Literature |
| 4 years of History | World History I | World History II | AP/US History | Government/Econ AP Euro. History |
| 4 years of Math | Algebra 1 Geometry | Geometry Algebra II | Algebra II Pre-Calculus Personal Finance | AP Calculus Personal Finance |
| 4 years of Science | Earth Science | Biology | Chemistry | First Aid AP Physics AP Biology |
| 3 years of Foreign Language | Spanish I | Spanish II | Spanish III | Spanish IV |
| 1 year of Classical | | Latin Vocabulary | Logic | Rhetoric |
| Additional Requirements | Health | Speech (1 semester) | | |
| Electives: 3 semesters required | | | | |

Elective Choices: art, concert band, worship team, yearbook, drama, Latin vocabulary, logic, rhetoric, Student Council#, teacher aid#, study hall #.

Student athletes are required to be enrolled in 6 or more courses. Classes marked by # do not count toward the 6 course requirement to participate in athletic program.

Bible Courses

Bible is taught as a distinct content area as well as integrated in all instruction. Bible is taught to make possible the divine-human confrontation so God can speak through His Word the good news of salvation. Through Biblical studies students are invited to come to understand that the loving Creator-Redeemer God has acted in behalf of sinful man providing redemption. It is our prayer that each student will make the transition from *knowledge* to *belief* to *conversion* to *Biblical Christian living*.

Christian Doctrines Part I

This course is part one of a two-part course designed to help the student grow in Christ's likeness by gaining a reasoned understanding of foundational Christian beliefs. It addresses topics such as the following:

- How do the free will of man and the sovereignty of God coincide?
- How has God brought about the restoration of what we lost in the Fall?
- Where is human history going?
- What is the role of the Church?
- How are angels involved in the world of men?

These studies will result in the development of a Biblical framework or "grid" in the student's mind through which he can sift and interpret all the particulars (moral, social, political, interpersonal) of life.

Christian Doctrines Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed to help the student grow in Christ's likeness by gaining a carefully reasoned understanding of foundational Christian beliefs. It builds upon the topics addressed in Christian Doctrines Part 1 and results in further development of a Biblical framework of "grid" in the student's mind through which she can sift and interpret all the particulars (moral, social, political, interpersonal) of life.

World Views Part I

This course is part one of a two-part course designed to equip the student to explain the gospel to his friends in a coherent manner, to articulate why any thoughtful person should seriously consider the truth claims of the Christian worldview, and to gain tools of discernment in evaluating other ideas they may encounter.

Worldviews Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed to strengthen students understanding of how Christian beliefs apply to various aspects of life such as philosophy, ethics, law, politics, etc. Secondly, a student should understand that a Christian worldview is reasonable and that competing worldviews they will encounter are inadequate foundations for living, both individually and with respect to society.

Language Arts Courses

Students learn to think biblically through the practice of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking. Just as God's character is a perfect blend of exactness and creativity, so is language. Students are encouraged to blend these elements in all language arts areas. In addition, the application will include transferring pertinent elements of language into other areas of study.

Students are immersed in a literature-rich environment, filled with classical and quality contemporary fiction and information selections which relate to multiple areas of learning and interest.

The goal of language arts instruction is the mastery of language for communication of the Gospel—effective, fluent expression in speaking, writing, and visually representing—and for successful enterprise in the individual life.

7th Grade Foundations of Literature

In this course, students read a variety of literature as they learn and apply the foundations of literature: character, setting, theme, plot and conflict. Students will learn to think biblically as they read, write, listen, and speak about literature and its effects on individuals and society.

7th Grade Composition

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of basic language skills which will enable them to identify parts of speech and become creatively involved in the writing process as they build fluent, detailed sentences, paragraphs, and essays. Students are taught the basic structure of formal essays and the steps of revision, editing, and publishing.

8th Grade Elements of Literature and Composition

In this course, students continue to explore the foundation elements of literature while reading a variety of literature with an emphasis on classical texts. Likewise, students will complete a series of written assignments both dependent and independent of what they are reading while studying rhetorical devices, world view, keys to good writing, punctuation and grammar.

World War 2 Literature

In this junior high elective course, students explore information text and historical fiction set during the World War II era. Students participate in literary discussion groups as they interpret literature from a historical perspective.

English 9-Introduction to Literature

In this course students will read and analyze a variety of literary genres. The emphasis is on interpreting texts from a Biblical worldview. This course features extensive work on the development of writing skills. Students will produce a series of formal essays and a formal research paper. Through this process, they will work on building and supporting effective argument. Vocabulary and grammar will be studied in conjunction with these essays.

English 10-World Literature

Our own time and place is a world shaped by God’s providence by all that has come before, not just the physical world, but the world of literature. The stories of previous ages and different places are part of our heritage. This class offers students a passport to this rich heritage via literature from a range of eras, places, cultures, languages, and traditions. This course introduces students to the richness and purposes of World Literature, its timeless stories, its living characters, and its diverse cultural origins and contexts. Students will be guided to make connections that build knowledge and understanding—connections between texts, between regions of the world, and between the works and their own lives.

Students will continue to enhance writing fluency as they write a series of formal essays in which they will practice biblical reasoning and literary interpretation. Vocabulary and grammar will be studied in conjunction with these essays.

English 11-American Literature

This course is designed to provide an overview of the main periods of American Literature: Early American (1620-1820), Romanticism (1820-1865), Realism (1865-1914), and Modernism (1914-present). Students will understand how literature is providentially used to influence and reflect history as they study the works created during each time period of America's history. Students will be guided to make connections that build knowledge and understanding as they investigate the main beliefs prevalent in each time period and how those beliefs influenced the writings passed on to future generations. In addition to this study of America's rich heritage in literature, students will continue to enhance personal vocabulary, mastery of grammar, and writing fluency as they interpret and analyze literature through a biblical worldview with the intention of deeper understanding and personal life application.

English 12-Literary Analysis

In this course, students critically analyze words, forms of writing, and different types of literature in order to communicate more effectively and dynamically. An emphasis is placed on discussing the text, developing critical thinking and examining Christianity and culture. While reading a wide variety of literature, students will complete a series of written analysis assignments and complete the Senior Thesis Project using appropriate support (MLA documentation, structure, presentation). Periodic reviews of grammar and style will be covered as needed.

Advanced Placement Literature

As a two semester blended AP class this course engages students in becoming skilled readers of both poetry and prose, and in becoming skilled writers who can compose literary analysis essays. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course prepares students to pass the AP Literature exam.

History Courses

History is truly “His Story,” from creation to the dispersion of men throughout the earth. Mankind is fulfilling the creation mandate of establishing dominion and inhabiting the earth and reflects the characteristics of God as he seeks to gain knowledge and live within a social system. Our social studies curriculum focuses on Christian history, as we explore God’s providence in people, movements, and nations. Social, cultural, philosophical, and political studies are woven throughout our curricular program with emphasis placed upon the principles found in God’s Word. Importance is placed upon a nation’s commitment, or lack thereof, to God and His principles.

Geography 7

This course is designed to give students a practical knowledge of physical geography of the world as they explore God’s providence as demonstrated by physical features, culture, government, economics, and current events.

8th Grade American History

The students will develop a deeper understanding of American history with a Christian perspective from early colonization to the present through the use of readings, assignments, research, discussions, projects, and various media sources.

World History Part I

This course is part one of a two-part course designed for students to explore World History from creation to the present examining the providential events and contributions of each civilization.

World History Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed for students to explore World History from creation to the present examining the providential events and contributions of each civilization.

US History

This course was designed for students to develop their abilities to evaluate and critique America’s history from a Biblical perspective. Students will gain a working knowledge of our country’s history from its early colonization and founding to the present. They will compare and contrast the dominant philosophy and literary trends of each time period to Christianity.

AP European History

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a providential role in shaping the world in which we live. Without this knowledge, we would lack the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity, and change in present-day society and politics, and the development of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP History are to develop a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing.

This course prepares students to pass the AP European History exam.

Mathematics Courses

We recognize and encourage the reality that math teaches students to be disciplined and precise; to think logically and objectively. It reveals to us the orderliness and consistency of God. We believe there is one Creator who has created all things. Mathematics is seen as part of God's creation and hence an area worthy of study. We do not create mathematics, instead we discover the principles and mathematical truths that God enables us to discover and understand.

Algebra I

In Algebra 1 students acquire a foundation of algebraic skills that include: analyzing data and relationships, discovering patterns, functions, linear equations and inequalities, lines, polynomials, and the basic structure of the real numbers. This is done using algebraic, graphical, and tabular representation of concepts.

Geometry

Geometry (ancient Greek: *geo* = earth, *metria* = measure) is part of mathematics concerned with questions of size, shape, and relative position of figures. The objective of this course is that students will acquire a foundation of geometry that includes both an understanding of the mathematics involved as well as an ability to apply this understanding to real world situations in such a way that the students can develop practical solutions and explain their thinking process in doing so.

Algebra 2

Students acquire a more in-depth look into algebraic principles and come to understand the connection between algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. This course will prepare students to use advanced algebra concepts and skills confidently in mathematics and in other related disciplines.

Pre-Calculus

Students are prepared for success in Calculus and other high level mathematics they will encounter later in high school and college. This preparation is provided by an overview of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry concepts, in an effort to establish a mastery over operations and strategies necessary for successful mathematical thinking.

Personal Finance

This course is designed to give students a broad view of the many aspects of personal finances they will encounter in daily living. Class begins by giving students several personality assessments that will help students better understand themselves and their gifts, abilities, personalities, experiences, and heart desires. Knowing this, the class will then assist students in evaluating many different career possibilities. The rest of the course will involve teaching the concepts of financial decisions that will guide students in developing a Biblical financial perspective and guidelines for godly economic living.

Advanced Placement Calculus

This course is designed for the college-bound student with science or math related emphasis or skills. This course takes students from a more static view of math to a more dynamic view. It teaches students how to deal with changes and motion, what happens when quantities approaches other quantities, and how limits expand our mathematical toolbox.

Science Courses

HCA approaches science from a Biblical perspective. God created an incredible and intricate universe which we are honored to explore and study in great details. His creativity and beauty achieved with perfect balance and order vividly portray what a majestic God we serve. Because God is good, every amazing concept students learn via the sciences is for mankind to use for a good purpose, teaching us the Biblical principle of accountability and stewardship. We believe through the study of science we learn more about God--the one who made the world, redeemed it, and supports and preserves all things for the benefit of mankind.

Grade 7-Physical Science

This course was designed to provide students with foundational understanding of topics in physics and chemistry. Students will practice the scientific method and learn laboratory procedures.

Grade 8-Anatomy and Physiology

This course presents the essential information for understanding the structure and function of the human body. "God created man in his own image," (Genesis 1:27) and "crowned him with glory and honor" (Psalm 8:5). Students will gain a sense of marvel and wonder at the glory of God revealed in the human body.

Earth Science

In this course students will continue to practice laboratory procedures and the scientific method as they explore the origins of the earth from a Biblical Creation perspective. They will explore basic geological concepts as well as basics of astronomy. They will be able to apply scientific concepts as they learn the Biblical mandate to be good stewards of the earth.

Health (1 semester)

In this course students learn biblical stewardship of their personal physical, emotional, and social health as they understand and create strategies that can be applied to their own lives. Students learn strategies for wellness, the importance of self-knowledge for emotional wellness, and the importance of proper nutrition and exercise. Students also study the processes, responsibilities, and consequences of human sexuality.

Biology

The vast field of biology is explored in this course. The field of study spans from the microscopic world of cells to global ecology. The incredible complexity and remarkable variety of life is a testament to the hand of God at work in His amazing creation at every level. In this course, students are invited to apply God's principles of stewardship and accountability in today's world of biology.

Advanced Placement Biology

Given the speed with which scientific discoveries and research continuously expand scientific knowledge, this course focuses on enduring, conceptual understandings and content that supports them. This approach enables students to spend less time on factual recall and more time on inquiry-based learning of essential concepts, and helps them develop reasoning skills necessary to engage in science practices used throughout their study of AP Biology and in preparation for the Advanced Placement exam.

Chemistry

Chemistry is an engaging course which begins by developing problem solving skills, acquiring factual knowledge, and learning chemical concepts. This knowledge base is then used to explain, analyze, and interpret chemical processes. Because God created all matter, His incredible design and power are evident in the smallest atoms.

First Aid

In this course students gain the knowledge to assess and treat common injuries, illnesses, and conditions. They are equipped to be a biblical "good Samaritan" as they learn the skills necessary to be an effective first responder and become Red Cross certified in CPR.

Physics

The primary purpose of this course is to learn about the Creator by studying His creation. This course will provide a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics and emphasize the development of problem-solving abilities. This course is built upon a foundational understanding of algebra and basic trigonometry.

Advanced Placement Physics

The AP Physics course is a two semester university level algebra-based physics course. It is designed to provide students with a good understanding of the physical world in which they live, and to prepare them to take the College Board AP Physics Examination. The course emphasizes both general understanding and problem solving ability. Hands-on laboratory work is an integral part of the students' learning experiences.

Foreign Language Courses

One of God's greatest gifts to mankind is the gift of language. God Himself is the *Logos* or "Word" described in John 1:1-5. It is through language that God has revealed Himself in Scripture, and it is through language that we communicate with Him in prayer, as well as with others. The highest goal of language learning is to be able to create the kind of relationship with another person that can make Christ's love known to him in a very real way.

Intro to Spanish-Spanish IV

Spanish Introduction –Spanish IV is a five-year study. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are acquired in Spanish using the Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (T.P.R.S). Students are introduced to Hispanic culture throughout the world. Reading the Bible and memorizing key verses further their language proficiency and equip them to fulfill the Great Commission.

Electives

HCA electives are courses that fall outside of the main core academic subject areas. These courses are not required, but enable students to select areas of study that further develop their God-given individuality.

Art

The leading distinctive in our art program is the pursuit of beauty. We often think of beauty as merrily decorative or ornamental forgetting that beauty is a moral necessity. David wanted to ". . . behold the beauty of the Lord" (Psalm 27:4). The pursuit of beauty is a Christian's responsibility and not an option. In a nurturing but ever striving atmosphere, we try to emulate David's words through painting, drawing, and creative arts.

Concert Band

Music is a gift with which to express our glory to God. In concert band students explore musical repertoire that spans the historical timeline and reveals how composers write to express their love for God and how they use the gifts He's given them to share that love. Students study and practice a specific instrument in answer to God's call to each of us to cultivate our own God-given gift of expression.

Worship Team

Leading the music portion of weekly chapel, the Worship Team focuses on expression of praise and glory to God. This outward testimony develops a student's call to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The principle of Christian Character is evident as students realize their impact for Christ in the World.

Latin Vocabulary

This blended course introduces students to Latin and Greek root words, prefixes and suffixes. This course enables students to discover the great influence Latin had on English and other world languages. Through intense vocabulary study, students will gain the study habits, skills, and knowledge necessary to understanding and applying word knowledge to their cognitive repertoire.

Logic

This blended course is an overview of the basics of formal logic which is the study of structure and form of classical syllogisms. Emphasis will be on categorical syllogisms which include discussion on deductive inference, terminological rules, mood, and figure. The class will also include an overview of hypothetical and complex syllogism. Throughout the class students will be challenged “to be transformed by the renewing of their minds” Romans 12:2.

Computer

Introduction to computers is designed to instruct students in basic computer operation. Students will be instructed on a myriad of topics which include safe use of the internet, operation of office applications (i.e. powerpoint, open office, etc), and effective management of various system platforms (i.e. windows, apple, linux). There will be emphasis on the role of technology in the Christian’s life and the necessity to use computers as an instrument to honor God and His plan.

Yearbook

The yearbook course is a collaborative learning venture whose primary goal is to produce an accurate, thorough, consistent, technically correct record of the HCA story. The yearbook course requires students to take part in all aspects of production of the yearbook including: creating a theme, designing the cover and layout, and taking photographs.

Drama

As the students study and perform they learn the theater is a public forum using words and actions to express oneself. Drama underscores the importance of walking in God’s light, whether under the stage lights or under the street light. On-and off-stage, students are reflections of God’s presence in their lives.

Note: The **Advanced Placement (AP)** is a program in the United States created by the College Board offering college-level curriculum and examinations to high school students. American colleges often grant placement and course credit to students who obtain high scores above a certain number on the examinations. The AP curriculum for the various subjects is created for the College Board by a panel of experts and college-level educators in each subject. For a high school course to have the AP designation, the course must be audited by the College Board to ascertain it satisfies the AP curriculum. If the course is approved the school may use the AP designation and the course will be publicly listed on the AP Ledger.

Note: **Blended** identifies courses taught using an on-line format integrated with face-to-face instruction.