

**CURRICULUM GUIDE | 2025-2026**

# **WHITINSVILLE CHRISTIAN**

**INSPIRING MINDS | IGNITING HEARTS**



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INSPIRING MINDS | IGNITING HEARTS



**“I will instruct  
you and teach  
you in the way  
you should go;  
I will counsel  
you with my  
loving eye  
on you.”**

Psalms 32:8 NIV

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Whitinsville Christian High School! This guide provides an overview of the curriculum available to students at WCHS and gives a clear outline of the graduation requirements. The course of study is designed to meet you where you are as a learner by offering three levels of rigor across ten curriculum departments, including robust offerings in the arts, STEM, business, Bible, and humanities. Throughout your four years of high school, I encourage you to build a solid foundation with our core curriculum and expand your horizons with our rich set of electives courses that will allow you to pursue your passions and try something new.

Some words of advice as you think about selecting your courses:

- Pursue your passions. When you look back over your four years, your experiences should tell a story. Did you discover a new interest? Did you flourish in one particular area? Did you challenge yourself? Did you enjoy your experience?
- You do not have to take every honors or AP course. Listen to advice from your parents, your teachers, and your guidance counselors. Challenging yourself and taking all of the hardest courses do not necessarily mean the same thing.
- Do you want to try everything? Great! It is okay if you do not have a study hall. We have built into the schedule opportunities during the day for you to seek extra help, work with others on group projects, or study in a quiet space.
- Consider one of our diploma endorsement tracks. We currently offer tracks in Fine Arts and STEM.
- Consider opportunities such as internships, teacher aiding, NASA Guided Independent Study and Senior Capstone.

I look forward to walking with you as you seek God's plan for you at WCHS.

*Tammi Gorman  
High School Principal*

*My deep hope is that you are engaged in learning, drawing nearer to God, and discovering His plan for you to make a Christ-like impact in His world.*

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**4**

Faculty

**5**

Graduation  
Requirements

**6**

Required Courses &  
Transfer Credit Policy

**7**

Degree Tracks

**8**

Course Selection  
Process

**9**

AP & Honors  
Courses

**10**

Course Descriptions

**10**

Bible

**12**

English

**15**

History

**17**

Mathematics

**19**

Science

**22**

Business

**24**

Fine Arts

**26**

Music Courses

**27**

Additional Humanities

**28**

Physical Education

**29**

Spanish

**30**

Technology

**32**

Additional Electives





## FACULTY

Joel Alberts, B.A., M.A., M.Ed.

Brady Bajema, B.A., M.Ed.

Lilly Christy, B.A., M.A.

Mike Craig, B.S.

Eliot Deters, B.S.

Sandra DiGregorio-Mercurio, B.A., M.A.

Steve Fortna, B.A., M.Ed.

Abby Graves, B.S., B.S.Ed.

Margaret Hendrikse, B.A., M.A.T.

Elizabeth Keimer, B.A., M.A., M.Ed.

Kyle Keimer, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

Leigh Ann Olejnik, B.A., M.A.

Kelly Penning, B.A.

Tricia Pishock, B.S., M.A.T, C.H.T.

Kurt Savage, B.S., M.A.T.

Stacey Savage, M.Ed.

Emily Shannon, B.A.

Amanda Smith, B.A.

Zachary Surapine, B.A., B.M.

Rockland VanTol, B.A., M.A.

John Vriesema, B.A., M.A.

Derek Wielsma, B.S.

Dean of Academic Services, History

Business, Physical Education

English

Mathematics, Science, Math Lab

Business

Spanish

Director of Technology

Mathematics

Math

Guidance

History, Bible

English

Spanish

Chemistry

Athletic Director, Science

Science

Art

English

Orchestra

History

Bible, Guidance

Music

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for a diploma at WCHS, a student must successfully complete 130 credits. Most full-year courses are worth 5 credits each; most semester courses are worth 2.5 credits. The required course of study includes the following:

English	20 credits	4 full courses
Mathematics	20 credits	4 full courses
Science	15 credits	3 full course/equivalencies
History	15 credits	3 full course equivalencies
Bible	10 credits	4 semester courses
Spanish I & II	10 credits	2 full courses
Physical Education I & II	5 credits	2 semester courses
Technology	5 credits	2 semester courses
Fine Arts	2.5 credits	1 semester course equivalent
Personal Wellness	1.25 credits	1 quarter course
Financial Literacy	1.25 credits	1 quarter course
Speech	2.5 credits	1 semester course



<b>GRADE 9 REQUIRED</b>	
English 9	Bible 9 - Hermeneutics
Math*	Technology Fundamentals /
Biology	World History I and World History II
Spanish I	PE /
<b>GRADE 10 REQUIRED</b>	
English 10	Bible /
Math**	Computer Science Elective /
Science	PE /
Spanish II	US Government /
<b>GRADE 11 REQUIRED</b>	
English	Bible /
Math*	Science
Personal Wellness & Financial Literacy /	US History
<b>GRADE 12 REQUIRED</b>	
English	Bible /
Math*	Speech /
Contemporary/ or AP World History	

The backslash symbol (/) following course name reflects a one semester course.

\*Math track(s) will be assigned based on departmental criteria

\*\*With permission and based on departmental prerequisites, sophomores may double up Geometry & Algebra II.

## **TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY**

- WCHS requires a sealed official transcript from the transferring school. Transfer transcripts are uploaded to SCOIR in preparation for college applications.
- WCHS will add a notation on the WCHS transcript of the credits awarded based on the classes taken.
- WCHS will notate specific classes, but not grades received or grade point average from the transferring school.
- WCHS will not average grades received from the transferring school with grades received from WCHS.

## **DEGREE TRACKS**

WCHS currently offers two diploma endorsements to recognize a student's focus and dedication to a particular area of study.

### **Fine Arts Degree Track**

The Fine Arts Endorsement on a WCS High School diploma demonstrates a student's passion and commitment to the arts. This distinction will provide an edge as students apply to colleges.

To receive this endorsement, a student will:

- Earn 15 credits in Fine Arts courses
- Serve on the cast or crew for 2 productions or serve 2 years in an after-school musical ensemble
- Attend 1 WCS Fine Arts performance each year
- Submit a review of a non-WCS performance or art gallery each year
- Maintain an 85% or above in all enrolled Fine Arts classes
- Participate in a senior year performance or showcase
- Create an e-portfolio to showcase all Fine Arts work

WCHS offers a variety of qualifying electives and extracurricular activities to fulfill this track.

### **STEM Degree Track**

The STEM Endorsement on a WCS High School diploma demonstrates a student's focus and dedication to his or her studies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

To receive this endorsement, a student will:

- Earn a minimum GPA of 3.0 in foundational STEM courses, two advanced courses, and two STEM electives
- Participate in six STEM-related extracurricular activities while at WCHS.
- Create a STEM-related Capstone Project or write a Senior Research Paper with a STEM-related topic
- Create an e-portfolio to reflect all STEM activities at WCS

WCHS offers an extensive catalog of college-prep, Honors, and AP courses, as well as extra-curricular clubs and activities to fulfill this track.

## COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

All students are required to take a basic curriculum which will fulfill WCHS requirements for graduation. However, a college-bound student should be aware of the minimum admission requirements of his/her college.

### CHOOSING WISELY

As you decide which courses to take, plan carefully and wisely.

Think carefully about your gifts, needs, areas of strength, and weaknesses. You are planning your future, and it is helpful to establish some goals. Though being with your friends in class is fun, don't let your social wishes interfere with your decision about what classes are best for you.

Seek advice from your parents and guidance counselors as you make goals for the future. In the guidance office you can find this information:

- Standardized test scores that indicate your areas of strength and weakness.
- Patterns of performance in your education thus far.
- Information about colleges and work occupations. This information often includes lists of courses you must take to be accepted into colleges and specific vocations. For example, nursing schools often require four years of science and four years of math. Engineering schools often require chemistry, physics and four years of math.
- Note that most 4 year colleges require Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II as admission requirements. Most colleges require a minimum of 3 years of science as well as 2 to 4 years of a world language. Colleges differ in requirements and it is critical that you do your own research on this. State Universities in Massachusetts require a minimum of 4 years of math, 3 years of a lab science and 2 years of a world language.

Review this *Curriculum Guide* to find out what courses you must take and what electives you can choose. Some courses are offered every other year. If you want to take one of these courses, you must plan your schedule carefully.

Your education should stretch you in new ways so that you can find out what gifts God has given you and where He may be leading you to serve Him. There is room in everyone's schedule to take more than the minimum 30 credits. Many of our students enroll in 35 credits (7 courses per semester). New classes can be added until the first week of school.

A student may withdraw with no transcript notation from a College-Prep or Honors course with permission from guidance/administration, **only until the end of the second week of a new semester.** If a student withdraws from a course after the second week of classes and is passing at the time of withdrawal, a "WP" will be noted on the student's transcript. If a student withdraws from a course and is failing at the time of withdrawal, a "WF" will be noted on the student's transcript. Students will not be permitted to withdraw from a course if his/her credit total will drop below the **minimum required (15 on-campus credits per semester).**

Scheduling and teacher workloads are determined by the administration prior to the start of school in August. Significant decisions are made based on course sizes and enrollment. Choose courses wisely for first and second semester. **In cases where class size is 10 or below, dropping a course may not be an option once you have enrolled.** The administration reserves the right to deny dropping a selected course after a certain date.

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors may select one non-Honors or non-AP elective class to take Pass/Fail during the WCS high school experience. Pass/fail courses will not count toward the core requirements but could be used for a subject beyond the total credit requirement in a particular subject area (e.g. students who have completed 15 core science credits could take an additional science course as Pass/Fail.)

Students interested in taking a course Pass/Fail must notify the Guidance Department prior to the end of the add/drop period and must have all required paperwork completed and signed by this date. Approval must be given by parents, teachers, Guidance, and the Dean for Academic Support in discussion with the high school Principal. Teachers will be notified of this status once it has been approved.

Students enrolling in the Pass/Fail option are expected to be full participants in the courses and must complete all assignments and assessments in addition to maintaining a passing grade of 60%. Students missing more than one assignment or missing any project or assessment will earn a failing grade in the course.

A numerical grade will be listed on the report card throughout the semester/year to confirm passing status. Passing grades will not be calculated into the quarter, semester, or cumulative GPA but a grade of F (59% or lower) will be calculated as such in the quarter, semester, and cumulative GPA.

The final grade on the transcript will be listed as Pass/Fail.

### **COURSE SELECTIONS** (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Courses that do not meet minimum enrollment figures may be canceled, and the students involved will be placed in a course of their choice or one that meets their educational goals.

Students are not permitted to have more than two study halls per semester, and are encouraged to only have one.

Once students have completed the online registration process, a guidance counselor will review it with the student and a final schedule will be designed.

Changes may occur due to staffing, changes in enrollment, or room availability.

### **AP & Honors Courses**

AP classes are college level courses taught over a full year of high school. They work at a more rapid pace and a significant amount of time is expected to be invested in AP classes. Honors courses are more intensive than College-Prep course offerings, but not as extensive as AP. Classroom activities require a great deal of independent learning. Course content demands critical, creative, and analytical thinking. Additional time outside of class is required to meet the objectives of the course work. AP and Honors Courses are designed for that student who has an innate or growing love for the content area or a love for learning in general. Expectations from the teachers are higher than College-Prep courses.

### **General Expectations for AP/Honors Courses**

- Students enrolling in an AP or Honors Course must meet the prerequisite requirements. Please check the Curriculum Guide as each course has its own set of prerequisites.
- Class sizes are limited to a maximum of 24 and placement is based upon previous grades and/or placement test scores.
- It is recommended that students take, AT MOST, 3 AP courses at a time due to the increased workload. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



- Summer work is required to be completed for all AP and Honors Courses and is due mid-August (exact due date is communicated each June). Students who fail to complete summer work by the due date will receive a zero for the work not completed.
- Many AP courses require participation outside the school day such as before school meetings, evening review sessions, and Saturday mock exams. Please make sure you ask about and understand the requirements for the course you are choosing before you enroll.
- Students are required to take the AP Exam if they take an AP course. Be aware there is a cost associated with taking the exam that will be added to tuition (approximately \$90-\$100).
- Students are typically not allowed to drop an AP course after registration. Significant budgetary decisions are made in May regarding AP course offerings. Students who wish to withdraw must submit a letter of appeal to the Dean of Academic Support signed by the student and parent explaining the extenuating circumstances.
- AP work will be credited to the student's permanent transcript by the addition of 0.5 to each grade in which AP credit has been earned. Honors course work will be credited to the student's permanent transcript with the addition of 0.3 to each grade in which honors credit has been earned. These values will be added when a student's GPA is calculated.

### **Procedures for Acceptance into AP/Honors Courses**

- Guidance will check students' grades and confirm students meet prerequisite grade requirements.
- Students take any prerequisite tests required.
- Students who do not meet prerequisites will be contacted by guidance prior to registration.

### **AP and Senior Final Exam Policy**

High School students complete midterm and final examinations each semester. Midterm and final examinations are weighted as 10% each of the semester grade.

- Seniors enrolled in full year courses who maintain a 90% average or higher for each of the four marking periods may be exempt from final examinations.
- Students enrolled in AP courses who receive an 85% average or higher end of year grade with no quarter being less than 83% may be exempt from the final examination.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **CORE COURSES**

#### **Bible**

#### **Biblical Archeology**

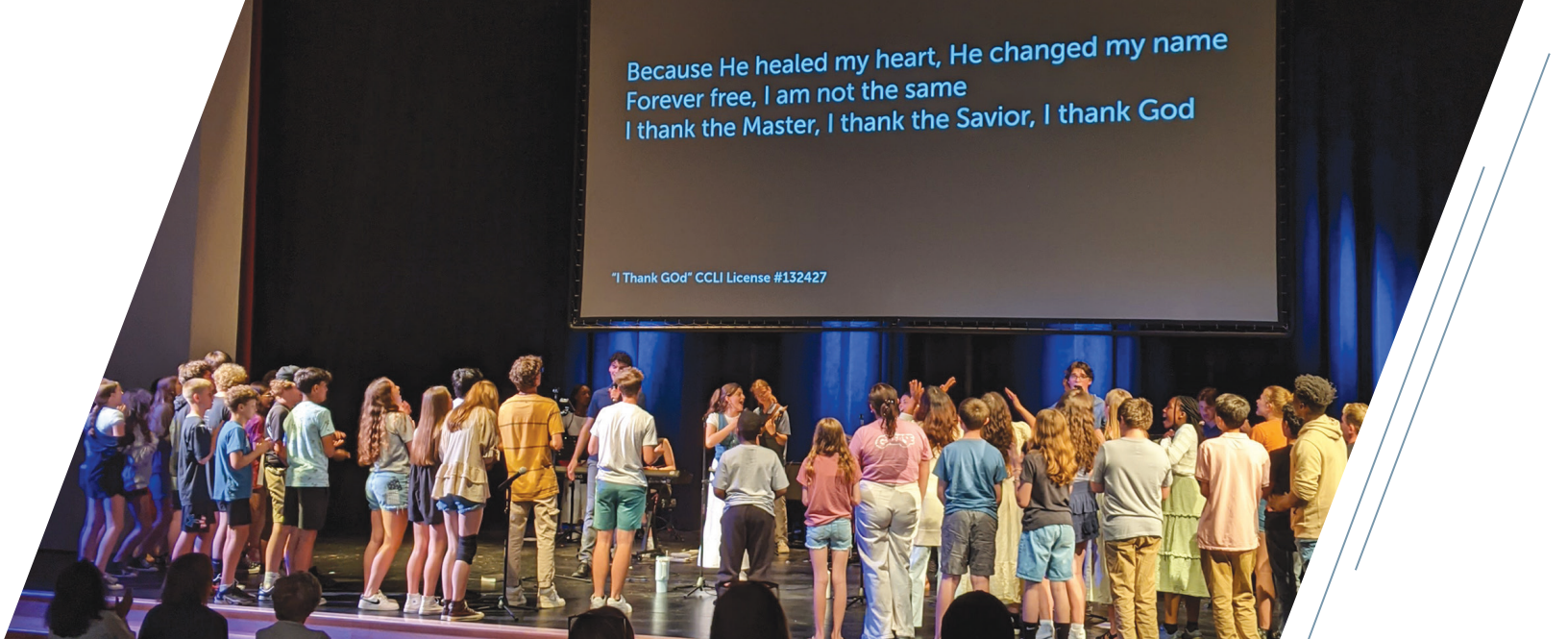
Students will explore how archaeology helps us better understand the Bible and the world in which its events took place. We will look at real places, ancient cities, and important discoveries that show how the Bible is rooted in real history. Students will learn how archaeologists work, how they uncover the past, and how their discoveries support the truth of God's Word. This course will help students see how God has worked through real people, real places, and real events. As we study archaeological finds, we will be reminded that our faith is based on truth.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore-Senior*

#### **Christian Adulthood**

Transitioning from being a high schooler to being a young adult can be daunting. Every young adult has a worry of "growing up" and attending college or finding a job. Where is my life going? Does God have a clear direction for me? This dynamic course will look at how in-



Because He healed my heart, He changed my name  
Forever free, I am not the same  
I thank the Master, I thank the Savior, I thank God

"I Thank God" CCLI License #132427

corporating Scripture and spiritual practices can provide a framework for navigating these challenges.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior-Senior*

### **Faith & Reason**

The Bible has been scrutinized for thousands of years. The claims most often levied against the Word of God suggest that alleged contradictions that “pervade the book” render it invalid. This course is meant to instruct students as to how they can reasonably understand and navigate their Bibles, all while directly facing common contemporary criticisms. In this course, students will explore the character of God throughout the Old and New Testaments, evaluate stories that are seemingly too “fantastical to be true,” and critically investigate claims that the Bible is full of contradictions. As part of the course, students will also be required to write a “worldview reflection” in which they will have to investigate and consider their views on origins, meaning, morality, and destiny. The goal of the course is to encourage students not to shy away from critically evaluating the content of their Bible(s), while simultaneously working to augment their faith as they work to understand that “[God’s] word is Truth” (NASB, John 17:17) and “shall not return [...] void” (NKJV, Isaiah 55:11).

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior – Senior*

### **Heroes of the Faith**

This course focuses on Hebrews 11, which summarizes the truth about faith and its practical applications for Christians. By studying the lives of the biblical figures mentioned in this chapter, students will gain a deeper understanding of what it means to live by faith. This course encourages students to reflect on their own faith journeys, finding areas where they can grow and strengthen their faith. Through discussions, journaling, and other class activities, students will build a foundation of what living by faith means in their personal lives.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

### **Bible 9 – Hermeneutics**

This course, the foundational course for many other Bible courses at WCHS, will teach principles for better comprehension of the Bible. Hermeneutical rules will be studied and will be applied to individual texts and passages. A unit on Biblical archaeology, history, and geography will be included to provide a fuller understanding of Biblical events. Finally, the various literary types will be studied and applied through a closer inspection of respective books. Books to be studied will include Deuteronomy, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Luke, Romans and Revelation.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Jesus – The Rabbi

Jesus grew up in first-century Israel. It was a very different time and place than today's world. His words back then would have impacted his audience differently than they do today. This course aims to examine how Jesus would have been viewed by his contemporaries; fellow rabbis, common folks, religious leaders and, of course, his disciples. We will study the life and words of Jesus, the rabbi. How does the land add to his message? How did he teach his disciples? What does it mean that He was a rabbi, and what made Him unique among rabbis of his day? What teaching methods did He use and how did they differ from how we commonly teach today? What did it mean to be a disciple? How did Jesus use common, mundane things from His culture to teach powerful lessons? We will study rabbis and disciples, the schooling system, Jewish sects, Jewish holidays, parables, daily home life and synagogue life, Jewish literature, and more. Step into the world of the first century Jew and listen with new meaning to the words of Jesus.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

## New Testament Theology

This course reviews several New Testament books (John, Acts, Romans, and Revelations) and helps students develop ways of studying the Bible. Students will review the author, his audience, purpose for writing, message and themes and learn how each specific book can be understood today. Passages will be studied carefully, taking note of historical, cultural, and geographical contexts, for a fuller understanding. Class discussions will also draw out the implications for a Christian's daily walk with God.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

## The Church in Action

This course will cover church history from 70 AD (picking up after the New Testament ends) and continuing until as close to the present day as possible. The textbook will be *Church History in Plain Language* by Bruce Shelley. The aim of the course will be to help students understand the development of Christian doc-

trine in the context of history as the church engages the world over the ages. It will highlight the church's accomplishments as well as draw lessons from its shortcomings. This course will require students to engage their own local church via sermon notes, volunteer work (in conjunction with our service hours), and interviews/visits with local church leaders. A key goal is to help students understand their own personal role within the mission of the church.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior - Senior*

## ENGLISH

### Advanced Digital Media

Advanced Digital Media is a year-long “hands-on” lab course covering all aspects of digital newspaper production. Students begin with “basic training” in the fundamentals of newspaper production, including journalistic writing, photojournalism, web design, and social media marketing. Students then choose one of two tracks in the course: journalism or photo-video production. Using a team-based approach, students will work in a professional environment to publish the Whitinsville Christian High School student newspaper, an online publication. Students will become proficient in Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Premiere, Canva, and WordPress. Students may enroll in the course multiple years.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Macbook or Windows laptop*

### AP English Language & Composition

This course is designed to help students become analytical, rhetorical readers and writers. Students are taught to read critically by focusing their attention on the choices that authors make in relation to social context(s), audience(s), and purpose(s). Most texts used throughout the year will be nonfiction and will come from a variety of formal and informal sources and genres (e.g., academic journals, advertisements, scientific arguments, letters, political cartoons, critical essays, charts and graphs, etc.). Students will also be required to produce formal and informal writings of the same sort; consequently, the course helps students become skilled,

rhetorical writers who compose for a variety of purposes within a variety of contexts. Students learn to write while making their own choices that pay strict attention to social context(s), target audience(s), rhetorical mode(s), and overall purpose(s). AP English Language and Composition enables students to read complex texts with understanding, while also teaching them to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. The ultimate goal of building the rhetorical skills the class fosters is to help mold the students into individuals who will actively and intelligently engage with the world around them.

*Elective replacing English 12: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or above in English 11 or an 80 or above in AP English Literature & Composition*

### **AP English Literature & Composition**

Proper literary analysis requires a student to look at the pieces and parts of a given work, figure out how each piece and part functions, and understand the purpose of that function, ultimately connecting that purpose to the functionality and to the work as a whole. When students learn to effectively analyze language through the study of literature, they learn to think critically about the world around them. Writing and thinking are two intrinsically linked processes; one fosters and nurtures the development of the other. Through learning to write effectively and expressing abstract ideas, students learn to organize their thoughts in a clear communicative manner. Students will learn how to manage unfamiliar texts and the pressure of producing an effective analytical essay, especially under timed conditions. Along with preparing students to be successful on the AP exam, this class will also focus on making sure each student is prepared for the rigors of the college classroom; therefore, the students must also learn how to produce long term, research-based essays.

*Elective replacing English 11: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or above in English 10 or an 85 or above in Honors English 10*

### **AP Seminar**

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

*Elective replacing English 10: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: 90 or above in English 9, 85 or above in Honors English 9*

### **Creative Writing**

This one-semester course is designed to offer the outlet for creative self-expression that lovers of literature crave, but rarely have time to explore in core English classes. Students will experience a wide range of poetry and prose;



emulating masters of language while developing their unique voice in original pieces. The latter half of the course will delve into the art of argumentation, providing participants with the necessary skills to effectively voice their worldview and impact their communities. Formal debates on contemporary topics will incorporate research, passion, style, wit, and rhetoric into authentic discussions on student-selected issues. This course will emphasize the power of publication, and students will be equipped to submit sophisticated pieces to various community forums.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## English 9

In English 9, students will explore and discuss literary works of several different genres as well as study grammar, vocabulary, and hone writing skills. Students will develop and practice critical thinking skills necessary to identify important themes, symbols, and literary techniques across genres. Students will also regularly practice writing skills through the process of planning, drafting, revising, and editing original pieces of writing. These practices encourage students to think critically about the world and how they can successfully engage with and respond to it as Christians.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Honors English 9

Honors English 9 students will explore and discuss literary works of several different genres. Students are expected to complete assigned reading and actively engage in class discussion by posing questions and sharing observations about the material. This course also focuses on vocabulary acquisition, grammatical instruction, literary analysis, and the necessary processes for crafting sophisticated pieces of writing. While homework is assigned, most of the coursework will be completed in class. Students are expected to spend time at home reviewing the material that was covered in class and come prepared with questions, observations, and completed work as assigned. Merely completing the work during the day without attempting to internalize and apply it will lead

to a minimal development of skills.

*Elective replacing English 9: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or above in prior English class and qualifying score on HSPT and WCHS Placement Test.*

## English 10: World Literature and English Grammar

World Literature is a survey course in which students explore works of different genres, continents, and literary periods. Students will study common archetypes across cultures and apply literary critical theories while delving deeply into stories. This course also focuses on the necessary processes for crafting sophisticated pieces of writing. Students will be implored to think critically and will seek to answer a wide range of essential questions, including:

- Why do humans need to interact with stories?
- What connections can we find across cultures and historical periods?
- How does a Christian worldview align with or respond to this author's work?
- How do different cultures shape the definitions of good and evil?
- In the face of adversity, what causes some individuals to prevail while others fail?
- When is it appropriate to challenge the beliefs or values of society?

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore*



## English 11: U.S. Literature & Composition

In this course, students undertake an entire year of American Literature study. We study two major novels in American Literature as well as other important works. Students are expected to have an understanding of major movements such as Native American Literature, African American Literature, Modernism, Realism, Romanticism, Postmodernism and Existentialism. Students are strongly encouraged to think and respond to themes introduced by the class readings. We also have an intensive, ongoing vocabulary study that helps prepare students for the SAT.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior*

## English 12

This course will use themes from selected literature written after World War II as a focal point for developing the expository writing skills required of students in college classes. Students will craft writing assignments examining different essay styles and discussing basic themes which helped shape post WWII culture. The literature chosen will provide students with a natural vehicle for discussing important issues of contemporary society in a Christian setting. Issues raised will include family values, friendships, homosexuality, immigration, mass incarceration, and racism. Literature will be chosen carefully and class discussions will focus on how Christians, in obedience to Scripture, should respond to the difficult issues of contemporary society.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Senior*

## Introduction to Debate

This course will introduce students to the different modes of formal/informal debate and equip them to enter into respectful dialogue about today's pressing issues. Students will employ critical thinking and creativity to craft arguments using rhetorical appeals while strengthening their research and oral presentation skills. Class activities will include frequent opportunities to compete in Lincoln-Douglas, spontaneous argumentation, public forum, and parliamentary style debate matches. (This class does not fulfill

the speech requirement.)

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Freshman-Senior*

## Speech

This is a course in which students are helped to speak effectively in a formal setting. The process of verbal communication will be analyzed in several speeches and evaluations. Students will practice their skills by building and delivering both informative and persuasive speeches for classroom observation. Speeches begin as 30 second readings and build to a final 15 minute presentation.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior – Senior*

## HISTORY

### AP U.S. Government & Politics

This course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the U.S. The course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students will become familiar with the Constitutional underpinnings of the U.S. government and politics; political beliefs and behaviors; political parties, interest groups, and mass media; public policy; civil rights and liberties; and the institutions of the U.S. government.

*Elective replacing Government: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or above average in World History I & II*

### AP U.S. History

This course will provide students with analytic skills and the factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in U.S. history. The demands of this class are equivalent to those made in full-year introductory college courses; students should develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

*Elective replacing U.S. History: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or higher in U.S. Government or 80 or higher in AP Government*

What's great about that?

My **deep hope** is that we learn to see the nation's affairs increasingly through God's eyes, noticing both the achievements to celebrate, and the failures to address, so that we can maintain what is good, and restore what is broken.

How's that broken?

### AP World History: Modern

This year-long course is an introductory college-level course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

*Elective replacing Contemporary World History: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or higher in U.S. History or 80 or higher in AP U.S. History*

### Contemporary World History

This course will study the broad scope of contemporary world history from 1900 to the present day. This includes studying global conflicts, the age of decolonization, the Cold War, and globalization. Students will examine world economic systems, governments, belief systems, events of mass atrocities and global conflicts, and geography in the 20th century. Students will also grow in their historical thinking skills, such as analyzing primary and secondary sources, as well as making and developing an argument.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Senior*

### Government

Christians have been mandated to play an active role in reforming creation and society. Part of this duty involves understanding and participating in government and politics. This course highlights the three branches of government, the history and application of the Constitu-

tion, and the basic concepts of democracy. In addition, emphasis is placed on current events. Looking at the political arena through a distinctly Christian lens, students will be challenged to interpret what their role is in society, politics, and American government.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore*

### U.S. History

This course will begin by studying the origins of the Civil War and proceed through the following topics: The Civil War, Reconstruction, the rise of industry and urbanization, the Spanish American War, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War and the 1950s and 1960s. Films and outside reading may be used. Students will give reports on various topics. The course will emphasize key historical thinking skills and aim to help the student acquire the tools to place today's events in context.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior*

### World History I and II

Over the course of two semesters, these classes will focus on the broad scope of world history from approximately the 600s to the early 1900s CE. The course examines world cultures, geography, economics, and politics during these time periods and integrates historical thinking skills into the study. Students are challenged to integrate these people, places, and events into a Christian worldview and answer the question, "How does the study of world history prepare us for being a disciple of Christ in the world?"

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Early Western Civilizations

This course investigates the rise of mankind from the earliest records to the fall of the Western Roman Empire in 476 A.D. Students will analyze diverse societies and civilizations from around the world, with an emphasis on the political, cultural, and military structures and historical forces that shaped the modern world. Students will apply historical inquiry, critical-thinking, and communication skills to evaluate the influence of selected individuals, groups, and innovations and then arrive at and present their own conclusions. Civilizations studied will include Persia, Mesopotamia, Israel, Greece, India, Egypt, and Rome.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## MATHEMATICS

### Algebra I CP

Algebra is the language of mathematics. This course begins with a review of solving equations and working with variables, introduced in grade 8. These skills are then extended to working with formulas, graphing equations, and restating word problems as equations. Operations with algebraic expressions, factoring, polynomials, and solving quadratic equations by factoring are also investigated. Considerable time is given to developing and practicing the algebra skills that are learned. An inexpensive scientific calculator is needed.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra*

### Honors Algebra I

Galileo said that, “*Mathematics is the language God used to create the universe,*” and Algebra is the language of mathematics, which makes its understanding both crucial and divine. Therefore, we begin with a rigorous review of all the algebraic topics included in an 8th grade curriculum. These topics include order of operations, properties of real numbers, signed numbers, algebraic expressions, multi-step equations and inequalities, and graphing linear equations. Then the remaining Algebra I topics are investigated. These include com-

pound inequalities, equations and inequalities containing absolute values, transformations of functions, graphing, writing, and using linear functions, systems of equations, exponential, polynomial, quadratic, and radical functions and equations, and data analysis and displays.

*Elective replacing Algebra I CP: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Final average of 85% or higher in Pre-Algebra and qualifying score on HSPT and WCHS Placement Test.*

### Algebra II CP

This course will review concepts studied in Algebra I, including using transformations to graph absolute value functions, solving systems of linear equations, and factoring. Then it will cover quadratic functions, quadratic equations and complex numbers, polynomial functions, rational exponents and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, and sequences and series. If time permits, right triangular trigonometry will be covered.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Geometry CP*

### Honors Algebra II

This course extends the concepts studied in Algebra I along with introducing more advanced topics including sequences and series, polynomial functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational functions, periodic functions, trigonometry, and operations with complex numbers. Applications of mathematics are



including data analysis and modeling.

*Elective replacing Algebra II: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: If in Honors Geometry, a final grade of 80 or above; If in Geometry CP, a final grade of 90 or above. Sophomores have the option of taking both Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II. In this case, a minimum grade of 90 in Honors Algebra I is required.*

### Introduction to Calculus and Discrete Mathematics

This course presents a range of topics that will be both interesting and important in the preparation for undergraduate mathematics for a variety of majors. Students will study key calculus concepts such as functions, limits, and derivatives, along with discrete topics like money management, probability, statistics, voting methods, and graph theory. Emphasis will be placed on real world applications, problem solving, and making connections across mathematical disciplines. Throughout the course, students will see how the order and beauty of mathematics shows how wonderful God’s design truly is.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II and Algebra II CP*

### Calculus

This course strengthens students’ understanding of functions in preparation for the process of differentiation and integration by reviewing graphing techniques, different coordinate systems, the Binomial Theorem, DeMoivre’s

Theorem, and limits and continuity. Calculus concepts explored include the various rules of differentiation, which will be derived, applications of the definite integral, the anti-derivative and integral, leading to the techniques and uses of integration. Throughout all the discussions and discoveries, God’s amazing influence and hand will lead the way.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Precalculus*

### AP Calculus AB

This course introduces the fundamental concepts of calculus and enables students to study mathematical functions and the way they change. Calculus is an awesome tool that God has given to us to describe His world. The course covers the fundamentals of both differential and integral calculus, stressing both a conceptual understanding of the learning objectives and the application of the course topics to solving problems. Mathematical practices are integrated throughout the course, focusing on reasoning, connections, notational fluency and communication. The course is aligned with The College Board AP Calculus AB Course and Exam Description.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Honors Precalculus with a final grade of 85 or above*

### Geometry CP

This course uses an inductive approach to learning concepts of geometry. Topics include

## Mathematics Pathways

Grade	Path 1	Path 2	Path 3	Path 4
Gr. 8				Algebra 1
Gr. 9	Algebra I CP	Honors Algebra I	Honors Algebra I	Honors Geometry
Gr. 10	Geometry CP	Honors Geometry	Honors Geometry Honors Algebra II	Honors Algebra II
Gr. 11	Algebra II CP	Honors Algebra II	Honors Precalculus	Honors Precalculus
Gr. 12	Precalculus CP Intro to Calculus and Discrete	Honors Precalculus Intro to Calculus and Discrete	Intro to Calculus and Discrete, Calculus, or AP Calculus AB	Intro to Calculus and Discrete, Calculus, or AP Calculus AB

similarity, congruence, right triangle relationships including basic trigonometric functions, area, and volume. The formal proof is introduced to emphasize logical reasoning and accurate thinking. Algebraic skills are reviewed and strengthened through application to solving problems in geometry.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

### **Honors Geometry**

This course is taught to help students develop a solid foundation of geometric ideas. Using inductive reasoning, students are encouraged to recognize patterns and to develop conjectures. Students use formal proofs to demonstrate the validity of these conjectures. Geometry's emphasis on logical reasoning and accurate thinking improves a student's communication skills in all areas of life. Algebraic skills are reviewed and strengthened through application to solving problems in Geometry.

*Elective replacing Geometry: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: If in 8th grade Algebra, a final grade of 90 or above and qualifying score on HSPT and WCHS Placement Test; if in Honors Algebra I, a final grade of 80 or above; if in Algebra I CP, a final grade of 90 or above.*

### **Precalculus CP**

The unifying concept of this course is the function. This course will connect a variety of functions – linear, quadratic, power, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric – with their life application. Students will approach these functions graphically, numerically and analytically. Students will have the opportunity to continue the practice and understanding of algebraic skills and concepts. Technology will be integrated throughout the course. This study brings a deep appreciation of the order and beauty of God's creation. The scientific calculator, TI-Nspire CX CAS, is required.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Final grade of 70 or above in Algebra II*

### **Honors Precalculus**

The unifying concept of this course is the function. Many facets of everyday life as well as the created world can be described by functions.

Trigonometric functions are introduced in terms of the unit circle and the right triangle. Applications of circular triangle trigonometry are considered along with the periodic nature of trigonometric functions that enables students to mathematically model periodic data from the world around us. This course includes a detailed study of quadratic, power, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and logistic functions. This study brings a deep appreciation of the order and beauty of God's creation. Students will approach these functions graphically, numerically and analytically. Mathematical practices are integrated throughout the course, focusing on reasoning, connections, notational fluency and communication. The scientific calculator, TI-Nspire CX CAS, is required.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Currently taking Honors Algebra II and final grade of 80 or above*

## **SCIENCE**

### **Honors Anatomy and Physiology**

This full-year course is designed to give students in-depth knowledge of the structures of the human body and an in-depth understanding of how the complex structures and systems of our body function together. This course is geared toward any student interested in learning about the human body, and is particularly beneficial for students looking to pursue a life science or biomedical related field. Students will first learn common medical terminology and review the basic concepts of biology and chemistry needed for life. The class will then study various systems of the body such as the skeletal, muscular, nervous and cardiovascular systems. In each unit, students will learn the important anatomy and then study the physiology of how those structures work and how they relate to the body as a whole. Mini units throughout the year will take a short and focused look at the basic structure and functions of specific organs such as the kidney or endocrine system. Through this class students will gain a deeper appreciation for our bodies as a creative work of God.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or higher in Biology; 85 or higher in Honors Biology, or permission of instructor*

## AP Biology

This course is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 85 or higher in Honors Biology; 90 or higher in Biology, or permission of instructor*

## Biology

Biology is the study of living things. Students are challenged to move beyond descriptive biology, to an understanding of how cells work and how life's processes occur. An appreciation of these microscopic and chemical details leads to an understanding of how living things work on a larger scale. Topics include basic biochemistry, cell structure & function, cellular energy, heredity and gene structure, and systems of the human body. We will also discuss differing viewpoints on creation (how God created) and the age of earth (the timing of creation).

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore; can be taken as a freshman in conjunction with Principles of Engineering if schedule allows*

## Honors Biology

Honors Biology will cover the same topics as Biology but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. An additional unit on the frontiers of biotechnology is covered. Lab experiences are designed to be student-driven and require solid critical thinking and analysis skills. Students are expected to work well independently, to rise to the challenge of more difficult material, and to complete a greater amount of work outside the classroom.

*Elective replacing Biology: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: 85 or above in Principles of Engineering or 90 in previous science course if doubling up*

## Biotechnology

Biotechnology is a fascinating field that provides resources, tools, skills and techniques needed to support lab work carried out in the many fields of science. In this course students



will gain both knowledge and hands-on lab skill training in biotechnology. Students will earn basic techniques of pipetting, making solutions, and sterile techniques, as well as advanced techniques essential to studying DNA and gene expression. Students will learn the various ways that biotech is used to sustain current work, and also how the biotech industry continues to advance our understanding and capabilities. Students will also discuss the moral and ethical perspectives and limitations that inherently come with the field of biotech, particularly from a Christian worldview. Upon completion of this course, students will have the opportunity to take an exam to earn nationally recognized credentials as a Biotechnician Assistant.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: 84% or higher in Biology or Honors Biology*

## Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of the nature and behavior of matter. The general topics of this course include the development of atomic theory, the electronic configuration of atoms, chemical bonding, types of reactions, stoichiometry, the gas laws, and acid-base chemistry. As the year progresses and a foundation is built, students will begin to understand chemical processes in their everyday lives. Chemistry is a lab-oriented college preparatory course. Because of the mathematical nature of many topics, students must be enrolled in the highest level of mathematics course available to them.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Biology, can be taken as a sophomore in conjunction with Biology*

## Honors Chemistry

Honors Chemistry will cover the same topics as Chemistry, but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. Additional topics include solutions and chemical equilibrium. Students are expected to work well independently, rise to the challenge of more difficult material, complete a greater amount of work outside the classroom, and work through laboratory investigations independently.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: 90 or above in Biology or 85 or above in Honors Biology; 90 or above in previous science course if doubling up*

## Foundations for Health Professionals

This course is designed to help students learn about careers in the health professions and to develop skills needed for this field. During the semester, students will investigate career opportunities for Health Professionals, look at the importance of utilizing proper communication skills and identify the purpose of Medical laws and ethics guidelines. The course will challenge students to pursue increasing their knowledge about personal topics of interest in the field. Students will participate in hands-on activities, virtual simulations and role play activities.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

*This course does not fulfill the lab science requirement.*

## Genetics

Genetics is the study of heredity and is understood today at the molecular level. The application of this understanding holds much promise, some of which has already borne fruit in the areas of human health and agriculture. But there are also many difficult questions and choices that are being forced on us as this field expands and develops. These demand close scrutiny in the light of God's word, making this course especially relevant to young Christians. The course will open with a bioethics unit to examine the use of genetic applications. Students will then study the structure and function of the DNA, classical Mendelian genetics, inherited illness and gene therapies, gene regulation, and genetic engineering. Students will

participate in numerous advanced molecular biology labs in order to develop independent lab skills and understand the workings of DNA through hands-on learning. Labs will include genetic studies working with living organisms and DNA extractions. In the final lab, students will extract and purify their own DNA to perform a molecular analysis of one their genes.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Biology*

## Introduction to Biomedical Science

Biomedical Science is a huge field of study. Students with a biomedicine degree pursue careers in Biomedicine including Dentistry, Biomedical Laboratory Science, Medicine, Pharmacy, Physical therapy, Veterinary medicine. In this class, students will learn about clinical skills and key practices in different areas of biomedicine.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Biology*

## Kinesiology

The mechanics of how the body moves is an awe-inspiring feat of divine ingenuity. Throughout the semester students will learn the many intricacies of the body during movement. Students will learn about the basic principles of movement and focus on some of the major joints of the body. Students will learn the structure and function of those joints as well as injury and treatment, and will have fun learning common taping techniques for some joints.



Students will study the requirements for human performance from multiple body systems, and will also examine sports management and sports careers. In the final unit students will analyze and measure all that is required for them to run a 100 meter dash. Kinesiology is designed to help prepare students interested in athletic training, physical therapy, or other related medical fields. It is also designed to pique intellectual curiosity and to apply analytical and critical thought to concepts related to human movement and well-being.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

## Physics

Physics is the study of forces, energy, and motion. A study of physics improves our understanding of God's general revelation. The order and logic of nature in turn give us an insight into our Creator, showing His power and sovereign rule over the universe. Physics is a lab-oriented college preparatory course. Some highlights include building and launching rockets and going to Six Flags to experience acceleration first hand.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior – Senior*

## ADDITIONAL COURSE OFFERINGS

### BUSINESS

#### Accounting I

Accounting is not just an excellent career choice; it is also the language of business. Our Accounting course covers the full accounting cycle for services-based and merchandising businesses. It includes accounting concepts such as debits/credits, t-accounts, journalizing/posting transactions, worksheets, adjusting entries, cash controls, AR/AP, and creating financial statements.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore- Senior*

#### Accounting II

This course will delve more deeply into the basic topics, and we will explore advanced accounting concepts, including depreciation, inventory costing, payroll processing, payroll taxes, special journals, capital acquisition, and accruals/deferrals. Our course also examines financial analysis, strategic decision-making, and the various legal and ethical principles associated with the accounting function.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Accounting I*

#### Business Law

Our Business Law course aims to provide students with a foundational understanding of key legal principles and concepts that apply to the business world. Students will explore the legal system of the United States, including its court structures and various law practices. They will gain an understanding of the fundamental aspects of criminal, civil, and business law. Students can delve into case studies, engage in activities and projects, and participate in class discussions to gain an appreciation for the legal complexities that shape and regulate business activities.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore- Senior*

#### Financial Literacy

This course prepares students to be good stewards of what God has placed in their hands. Throughout the semester the class will focus on many important topics to stimulate thinking for the future. As part of the class, students will also learn about vocation/calling and what fields they might best apply their gifts and talents. The main focus of this part of the class will be on money and financial skills. Students will learn about budgeting, investing, savings, insurance, debt, taxes, and tithing to teach them about financial responsibility. Many of the above topics will be presented on by members of the WCS and local communities in order to give the students a real life perspective.

*Required: 1.25 credits (quarter course offered opposite Personal Wellness)*

*Prerequisite: Junior*

## Financial Markets

Financial Markets is a course that will focus on the major markets in the financial world. There will be a heavy emphasis on studying the stock market but we will spend time looking at other markets like the bond market, currency markets, housing markets and more. We will study how these markets work and what impacts these markets in the short term and long term. Students will get real life experience with these markets. God calls us to be good stewards of what has been given to us and this course will help students as stewards of finances.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

## Introduction to Business

Introduction to Business introduces students to the various functions and areas of business, including strategy, marketing, economics, finance, operations, accounting, ethics, human resources, management, technology, and information management.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Freshman-Senior*

## Principles of Finance

Roles in finance are not only about numbers; they also require interpersonal skills. The world of finance encompasses many disciplines, and finance personnel are crucial to the team's function and success. In Principles of Finance, we introduce students to various aspects of finance, including accounting and the management of assets, liabilities, equity, and cash flow. This course also covers financial analysis, including ROI and ROE, as well as financial planning and various financial services such as banking, insurance, securities, and investments.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore- Senior*

## Principles of Management I

Business is ultimately about people. Leaders and managers navigate through all the changes and obstacles a business faces during its life cycle. Competition, changing consumer demands, globalization, politics, downsizing, outsourcing, technology, and raw material costs—



all these and many more affect business daily. In Business Management, we will introduce students to the concepts that effective managers use for decision-making, planning, organizing, staffing, controlling, and leading people, processes, and assets to achieve optimal outcomes.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore- Senior*

## Principles of Management II

In our second semester, Business Management II, we will focus on customer management, communication, and branding. We will examine venture planning, money management, and planning a business management cycle for success. This course will also offer the unique opportunity to manage our in-school small business concept effectively.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Principles of Management I*

## Principles of Marketing

Marketing is the enterprise and pursuit of ideation, creation, communication, and delivery of profitable products and services to targeted customers for their benefit and for the benefit of society as a whole. Marketing connects companies and products to their target audience. It also involves many other disciplines, including psychology, economics, sociology, and technology. In Principles of Marketing, we will introduce students to these facets of marketing and others, including market research, market planning, marketing information management, selling, customer service, and "the 4Ps."

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Sophomore- Senior*



## FINE ARTS

### AP Art Studio 2-D; 3-D; Drawing

Students are required to choose a theme or driving question as they systematically investigate formal and conceptual issues. Making art is an ongoing process that involves critical decision making, continual development of the student's technical skills, and mastering the use of the visual elements and principles. The final product will be a portfolio of work that will be sent to the College Board for evaluation. Portfolio may concentrate in 2-D Design, Drawing, or 3-D Design.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Design Fundamentals, Additionally, for 2-D Design: Drawing or Painting (both are preferred)*

*2-D with Photography Emphasis: Photography*

*3-D Design: Ceramics or Sculpture (both are preferred)*

### Ceramics I

This course is designed to introduce students to using clay as a three-dimensional medium. Students will experience throwing clay on an electric or kick wheel and the three basic hand-building techniques: pinch, coil, and slab, which will be used to create their projects. We will study sounds structure, carving, modeling, additive elements, and how form follows function.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

### Ceramics II

This course is for students who have completed Ceramics I and would like to continue their study. Students will have more design freedom as their projects will be responding to prompts that incorporate the building techniques learned in Ceramics I. There will be more use of the pottery wheel and continental exploration of purpose, form vs. function, and design principles.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Ceramics I*

### Design Fundamentals

This class goes in depth through the elements and principles of design and how we can incorporate them into projects while exploring different design-based careers such as graphic design, interior design, product design, architectural design, and fashion design. We will use a variety of materials and techniques to accomplish each project which includes sculpture, printmaking, drawing, collaging and painting.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

### Digital Photography

Themed prompts will be given to add meaning to the photographs as we explore different genres of photography. Students will learn to use photo editing software and how to critique and select which photographs to keep.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

### Digital Photography II

This class will build off the skills learned in Digital Photography I. We will dive deeper into specific photography genres and editing options in Lightroom. Students will have more personal choice in the subject matter they choose and will be required to enter their work in a gallery show or competition.

*Elective : 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites : Digital Photography I*

### Drama

Whether you're a seasoned performer or stepping onto the stage for the first time, this Drama class is for any student that is interest-

ed in the areas of theater and acting genres, technique, and performance. Topics covered throughout this course will include (but are not limited to) Improvisation, Acting Techniques, Directing, Acting for Camera and Stage, Scene Study, Technical Theatre Elements, and Collaboration & Ensemble-building. Students will be expected to participate in theatrical games & improvisations, focusing exercises, monologue work, group scenes, and ensemble work. Students are also required to participate in an in-class performance for their final. Outside class performance opportunities will be optional.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

## Drawing

This class is based off of the teaching in the book, *Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain* by Betty Edwards. All exercises and projects are focused on correctly seeing and drawing edges, spaces, relationships, lights and shadows, and the gestalt. The class is structured to increase the confidence and ability to draw for each student.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Painting I

This course is designed to teach students the basic skills and techniques of painting. An in-depth study of the transparent and opaque qualities of paint is explored as well as the various methods of applying paint to a support. Students apply these techniques in watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media. Through the use of historical reference and exploration of different modes of painting such as realistic, abstract, and nonobjective, students are encouraged to develop their own style of painting.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Painting II

This course is designed to teach students more advanced skills and techniques of painting. An in-depth study of the transparent and opaque qualities of paint is explored as well as the various methods of applying paint to a support. Painting II will focus on more advanced assign-

ments such as portrait, mastery of technique, and developing a theme throughout their work. Students will apply these techniques in watercolor, acrylic, gouache, and mixed media. Through the use of historical reference and exploration of different modes of painting such as realistic, abstract, and nonobjective, students are encouraged to develop their own style of painting.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Painting I*

## Printmaking

This course focuses on graphic reproduction as an art form. Printmaking techniques to be explored are monoprints, linoleum, cardboard, collographs, woodcuts, multi-block prints, reduction block prints, and drypoint.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Sculpture I

This course is designed to give the student a taste of three-dimensional materials such as clay, wire, wood, cloth, plaster and combinations of other material. Various methods of hand building, carving, modeling, and craftsmanship are used in exploring armatures, installation, free standing sculpture, and hanging sculptures. Sketches related to the class will be included.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*



## Sculpture II

This course will build off of techniques, materials, and concepts learned in Sculpture I. There will be an emphasis on individual creativity that combines material and conceptual concerns. We will investigate installation, public art, and new media.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sculpture I*

## MUSIC COURSES

### Intro to Keyboarding and Guitar

Students will learn the basics of both piano (keyboard) and acoustic guitar, including proper technique, note reading, chords, rhythm, and simple songs. Emphasis will be placed on building foundational skills that can be used in worship settings, school performances, or personal enjoyment. Students will split time between the two instruments and will have opportunities to practice both individually and in small groups. Music theory will be introduced in a way that is practical and easy to understand, helping students grow in musical confidence.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Freshman-Senior*

### Intro to Music Theory

This course is an introduction to music theory including the elements of music, diatonic harmony and tonicization. Topics will include pitch class, simple and compound meters, scales, major keys, minor keys, diatonic modes, intervals, triads, seventh chords, beginning counterpoint, 2 voice composition, figured bass, dominant seventh chords, and cadences. Students will become familiar with analyzing melodic and rhythmic embellishment, chorale style and 4-part voicing. Students will learn to sight-read and sight-sing using the solfege method for major and minor key signatures and both simple and compound meters.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: None*



### AP Music Theory

This course will expand upon the music theory they learned in the Intro course and dig deeper into diatonic harmonies and tonicization as well as learn about chromatic harmony and form. Topics will include voice leading and voice leading chords, phrase structure, motivic analysis, secondary dominant, sequencing, modulation, binary and ternary form, modal mixtures and chromatic mediants, chromatic harmony and neapolitan sixth and augmented sixth chords. Students will learn to analyze music in the new styles including fugues, baroque counterpoint, sonata, sonatina, concerto, rondo, sonata-rondo, jazz, blues and other twentieth century music. Students will continue to learn to sight-read and sight-sing using the solfege method and expand their knowledge to include complex meters and modal scales.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Intro to Music Theory*

### High School Concert Band

The concert band is open to all instruments of the modern wind ensemble, including woodwinds (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet), saxophones (alto, tenor, baritone), brass (trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, euphonium, tuba), and percussion including timpani and mallet percussion. Concert Band focuses on both the development of individual musicianship including rhythmic and melodic accuracy, pitch and tone quality, as well as development of the ensemble including blend,

dynamics, harmony and intonation. Students will learn to value the principle that together we are more than the sum of our individual contributions.

*Elective: 1.25*

*Prerequisites: 2 years of private lessons preferred and 1 year of ensemble experience. Exceptions can be made for students at the discretion of the Band Director.*

### **High School Concert Choir**

This full-year course is open to all high school students. Concert Choir focuses on both the development of individual singing including rhythmic and melodic accuracy, pitch and tone quality, as well as development of the ensemble including blend, dynamics, harmony and intonation. Students will learn to value the principle that together we are more than the sum of our individual voices. The Concert Choir performs several times throughout the school year including a Pops Concert, Christmas Concert, Spring Concert and the MICCA Festival. In odd years, the Concert Choir goes on tour over the Patriots Day weekend. Previous tours have been to Philadelphia, Washington DC and New York City. Advanced students will also have the opportunity to audition for the MMEA Central District Festival.

*Elective: 1.25*

*Prerequisite: None*

### **Orchestra**

This course is designed to help students develop as instrumental musicians. The chief goal is to enable string students to foster their musical gifts for the purposes of praise to God and inspiration to His people. The classes will include full orchestra rehearsals, sectionals, and small ensemble rehearsals. Sectionals and small ensembles are coached by various members of the strings faculty. To enroll in this course, a string player must have completed appropriate string instruction; freshmen and sophomores must continue to study with an approved private teacher. Grading is based on class participation, mastery of assigned music, and mandatory attendance at concerts.

*Elective: 1.25 credits*

*Prerequisite: Middle School Orchestra or permission from the instructor*

### **Sound Technology**

This course offers students interested in live audio mixing the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of sound engineering and music production. Topics will include room acoustics and sound hierarchy, signal pathways, microphone types and application, speaker types and placement, EQ, compression, gate and other signal effects. Students will also learn the role of the sound engineer and their relationship to musicians, vocalists and other AVL technicians in order to provide high quality LIVE sound. This course will not cover topics of sound recording. Students will be expected to employ the skills learned in class for events that occur in the Nehemiah Center for the Arts, including student Chapel services. After school and evening requirements will be limited to 4 per semester. Students who successfully complete the Sound Technology course will be qualified to join the AVL Team that works with student events in the Nehemiah Center for the Arts, Krull gymnasium, and other events around campus using portable AVL equipment. It is recommended that students take this course in their freshman or sophomore years so that they can take advantage of the opportunity to join the WCS AVL Team during their remaining years at WCS.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## **ADDITIONAL HUMANITIES**

### **Psychology**

This course will evaluate the field of psychology from a Christian perspective. There is much beneficial information to learn about human thought and behavior from the study of psychology. As students learn about basic theories of human behavior and the significant people who shaped those theories, they will also learn to evaluate them in light of God's Word. Students will begin to learn why we act and think as we do and how we as Christians are created in God's image. Students will also gain a greater understanding of how to help people who are struggling.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Sophomore – Senior*

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Outdoor Physical Fitness

This course will enhance students' physical and mental fitness through immersive experiences in nature. By engaging in various nature-based physical activities such as hiking, trail running, and fishing, students will develop a deeper understanding of the benefits of outdoor exercise. This course aims to foster a connection between personal health and the natural environment, encouraging students to reflect on their growth and perceptions of health.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: PE 1*

### Personal Wellness

This course will equip students with knowledge and skills to take care of their bodies as they experience many of the influences in the world and communities around them. Personal wellness will be represented by a balance of mental, emotional, social, spiritual, and physical wellbeing. Topics will include mental health, exercise and nutrition, substance abuse, the effects of social media, and human sexuality. Guest speakers by members of the WCS and local community will be invited in to discuss some of these topics to give real life perspectives to what students may experience after high school. As part of this course students will also be trained and certified in a basic CPR course. Overall this course aims to develop a more mature understanding of how and why we should take care of our bodies in a way that glorifies our Creator, especially in a culture and season of life that is constantly changing and presenting challenges to our wellbeing.

*Required: 1.25 credits (quarter course offered opposite Financial Literacy)*

*Prerequisite: Junior*

### Physical Education I

This course focuses on lifetime physical fitness. The activities are directly related to developing and maintaining a healthy body throughout life. The goal of the class is to help students understand the concept of personal physical fitness

and make lifelong commitments to maintain healthy bodies. They will learn the importance of personal fitness, how to evaluate their own level of fitness, the difference between aerobic and anaerobic fitness programs, how to utilize a weight room, how to attain and maintain fitness, and principles of training and acquiring fitness. These goals will be achieved through active learning using class activities such as active games, weight training, and team activities. God has gifted us each a unique body and it is our responsibility to use these physical gifts in a God honoring way. Alternates annually with Physical Education II.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

### Physical Education II

This course focuses on lifetime sports and recreation. The goal of the class is to acquaint students with a variety of leisure activities and 30 sports which they could continue to participate in throughout life as a means of maintaining a minimal level of personal fitness. Students will learn the social value of leisure activities and how participating for this reason may be different than competition. Basic rules, skills and strategies for each sport will be taught, leading to actual participation. Class activities may include: archery, badminton, bowling, golf, tennis, volleyball, various lawn games, and tech-



nical rock climbing. Emphasis is placed on fair play and consideration for varying skills. As Christians, we have the opportunity to maintain our health through activities that can also be of social value in reaching out to our friends and coworkers to share the love of Christ. Alternates annually with Physical Education I.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

### **Physical Education III**

This course focuses on development of greater personal responsibility for maintaining an active lifestyle as a means of promoting physical fitness. Activities that are more enjoyable promote greater long-term involvement and contribute to more active lifestyles. Attention will be given to those lifetime sports and activities that may be less familiar or outside the typical physical education curriculum. Students will be challenged to take an active role in planning, organizing, and implementing the class curriculum through the completion of a project that requires them in pairs to teach, lead, and provide for facilities and equipment (with the help of the instructor). Students will be required to demonstrate initiative and be accountable for making good use of class time for achieving maximal health benefit. As Christians, we acknowledge our responsibility to care for our bodies as gifts from God to be used in service to Him and humanity.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: PE I & II*

### **Strength and Conditioning**

This course focuses on lifetime physical fitness with a specific emphasis on strength training. The bulk of this class will be spent in the weight room. Students will be building on their knowledge of a weight room from their time in Physical Education I. Students will learn more advanced lifting techniques with a heavy emphasis on proper form. Students will have the opportunity to build strength training plans built around detailed goals. They will have the opportunity to track their progress with these plans throughout the semester. God gifted us these amazing bodies and through this class

we will honor the Lord with our bodies by training them and building them up in a God-honoring way.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Physical Education I*

### **Strength and Conditioning II**

This course is a continuation of our lifetime physical fitness curriculum with a specific emphasis on strength training. This class will meet and use the weight room as our classroom. Students will learn more advanced lifting techniques with a heavy emphasis on proper technique and habits. Students will build consistent habits in the weight room, with the goal of these carrying over once they graduate. This class will be a combination of group workout plans and individualized strength training plans built around detailed personal goals. They will have the opportunity to track their progress with these plans throughout the semester. God gifted us these amazing bodies and through this class we will honor the Lord with our bodies by training them and building them up in a God honoring way.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Strength and Conditioning*

## **SPANISH**

### **Spanish I**

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language. Students are exposed to the basic grammatical structures of the language. Students first converse with one another using basic introductory phrases. As they continue, they learn many vocabulary words and phrases related to greetings, introductions, origins, emotions, personal descriptions, clothing, professions, food, sports, weather, travel, and more. Topics are presented in a variety of ways including games, puzzles, authentic and student-made videos, group projects, online vocabulary and grammar practices, and workbook activities.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Honors Spanish I

Honors Spanish I will cover the same topics as Spanish I, but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. Additional reading and vocabulary may present itself throughout the course. Students are expected to work well independently, and to deepen engagement with the language.

*Elective replacing Spanish I: 5 credits*

*Prerequisites: 90 or above in prior Spanish class and qualifying score on placement test*

## Spanish II

Spanish II is a review of basic grammatical structures and expansion of vocabulary and verb tenses, moving from the present tense into the past and future tenses. Students build upon reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through presentations, readings, video clips, and projects. Students participate in conversations, create stories, play games, and research Spanish-speaking countries and culture.

*Required: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

## Honors Spanish II

Honors Spanish II will cover the same topics as Spanish II, but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. Additional reading and vocabulary may present itself throughout the course. Students are expected to work well independently, to deepen engagement with the language, and to diligently attempt to produce the language through writing and speaking.

*Elective replacing Spanish II: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 90 or above in Spanish I or 85 or above in Honors Spanish I*

## Spanish III

Spanish III reviews previously learned material, expands the vocabulary base, and builds on the grammatical foundations of Spanish I and II. Through speaking, reading, and creating stories, students work toward increased proficiency and accuracy in the Spanish language. The goal is better understanding and communicating in Spanish, and appreciating the diversity of cultures and people in God's world.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 70 or higher average in Spanish II*

## Spanish IV

Spanish IV reviews previously learned material, expands the vocabulary base, and builds on the grammatical foundation of Spanish 3. Students continue to work toward increased proficiency and accuracy through reading stories, books, and literature. Increased reading and speaking in Spanish improves comprehension, speaking, and writing skills.

*Elective: 5 credits*

*Prerequisite: 70 or above in Spanish III*

## TECHNOLOGY

### Animation

This semester elective is an introduction to animation and motion-based media. Students will learn how to bring drawings to life by following the 12 Principles of Animation used by Walt Disney Studios: Squash and stretch, Anticipation, Staging, Straight-ahead Action, Follow through, Slow In and Slow Out, Arc, Secondary Action, Timing, Exaggeration, Solid Drawing, and Appeal. Students will create both hand-drawn animations and learn to use computer software such as Adobe Animate, including important concepts such as keyframes, rigging, frame rates, and tweening.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

### Advanced Animation

Advanced Animation is a guided independent study allowing a student to pursue a large "passion project" in the area of computer animation with a knowledgeable mentor providing advice and accountability. Advanced Animation is graded on a pass/fail basis. Students are required to submit a project proposal, reach important milestones, and ultimately complete the proposal in order to pass the class. Time management and the ability to work independently.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Technology Fundamentals; Macbook or Windows laptop*

## Advanced Computer Programming

Advanced Computer Programming is a guided independent study allowing a student to pursue a large "passion project" in the area of programming with a knowledgeable mentor providing advice and accountability. Advanced Computer Programming is graded on a pass/fail basis. Students are required to submit a project proposal, reach important milestones, and ultimately complete the proposal in order to pass the class. Time management and the ability to work independently will be critical to success.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Computer Programming or Computer Science; approval by teacher*

## Computer Programming: Cryptography

A survey of hidden writing, codes, encryption/decryption, and information security. You will learn computer programming (JavaScript and Python) while learning how to both encrypt and decrypt messages using a variety of different methods. Course includes a historical overview of codes and code breaking with an emphasis on World War II. Course concepts include programming logic, problem solving, mathematics (probability and number theory).

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

*\*Counts as computer science requirement*

## Computer Programming: Games

Students will learn key concepts of programming such as variables, functions, loops, algorithms, sorting, random numbers, and debugging while creating a variety of simple, playable computer games. Students will develop their own functions, programs, and algorithms in Javascript and Python programming languages. Creativity, problem solving, and time management will be stressed. No prior programming experience is required.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

*\*Counts as computer science requirement*



## Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence

An opportunity to explore the field of computer science through robotics and programming. Students will learn about the history of computing, processor design and manufacturing, data storage, algorithms, and computer programming. Students will receive hands-on experience programming LED lights, LCD displays, buttons, motors, and a variety of sensors on mBot Neo robots. Students will also be introduced to the core concepts of artificial intelligence and machine learning, engaging in thoughtful discussions on technical aspects as well as ethical and moral considerations.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

*\*Counts as computer science requirement*

## Graphic Design

This course is the study of visual communication and presentation. Students use computers to learn basic principles of artistic design while studying color theory, typography, logo design, composition, and page layout. Students use selected software applications to combine words, symbols, and images in the creation of visual metaphors, print publications, and advertisements. The use of a Windows or MacBook computer (not Chrome) is recommended.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

## Technology Fundamentals

This is a foundational course designed to familiarize students with the computer skills and concepts needed for success at WCHS, college, career, and life. Students will master basic computer operations, and improve on word processing, spreadsheet, and slide presentation skills. Students will study and discuss social media, online safety, technology and health, and copyright law, in addition to current trends in and a Christian perspective of technology. Students will also explore image creation, basic computer programming, and 3D printing.

*Required: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: None*

## Videography

This course is a study of the concepts, principles, and terminology of digital image creation, animation, and videography. Students learn how to use digital cameras and computer software to create, edit, animate, and caption still images and videos in order to tell imaginative and compelling visual stories. Students will also work with sound effects, music, and special effects. Use of a Windows or MacBook computer (not a Chromebook) is recommended. Students who have taken Digital Media may not take this course.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals*

## Web Design

This is an introduction to the design, creation, and maintenance of web pages and websites. Students learn to use HTML (hypertext markup language) to code web pages, CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) to format images and text, and basic JavaScript programming to make pages more interactive. Students learn how to create and manipulate images, and how to critically evaluate website quality. The use of a Windows or MacBook computer (not Chrome) is recommended.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Technology Fundamentals; MacBook or Windows laptop*

*\*Counts as computer science requirement*

## Advanced Web Design

Advanced Web Design is a guided independent study allowing a student to pursue a large "passion project" in the area of web design with a knowledgeable mentor providing advice and accountability. Advanced Web Design is graded on a pass/fail basis. Students are required to submit a project proposal, reach important milestones, and ultimately complete the proposal in order to pass the class. Time management and the ability to work independently will be critical to success. Advanced Web Design students will be required to purchase their own domain name and web hosting account.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisites: Web Design; approval by teacher; Macbook or Windows Laptop*

## ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

### Internship

Students may apply for an internship, an opportunity that provides real-world experience in a professional setting. This valuable experiential learning assists students in developing career objectives, building workplace skills, and in preparing them for future employment. Internships have been established within the WCS Marketing, Athletics, and Facilities Departments. Students may also work with the Guidance Department to propose a new internship opportunity. Internships allow students to earn service hours or class credit depending on the established parameters.

### Lab Tech

As part of our internship program, a lab tech works with a science faculty mentor to prepare for labs and clean up lab materials and work areas. In addition, the lab tech is given special projects such as organizing the science closet, inventorying science materials, researching co-curricular activities for sciences students such as science fairs, shadowing opportunities, and/or grants.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Junior or Senior*

## Senior Capstone Project

This course is a student-designed project that is carried out through the year. They will give a final presentation on their final product in early May. There is great latitude in designing the project. It is based on the student's interests and passions. Components of the project include a proposal, interview, mentor relationship, blog, short process paper, final product, and final presentation. Students are challenged to explore how their Christian faith interacts with their project. Capstone students meet monthly to update progress to peers and the Capstone faculty committee.

*Elective: 2.5 credits*

*Prerequisite: Senior*

## Teacher Aide

The teacher aide program gives students the opportunity to assist a teacher at any grade level in classroom responsibilities. Students may be involved in such activities as grading papers, creating art displays, leading a small group lesson, tutoring, giving spelling quizzes, etc. For students who have an interest in a future educational profession, this is a great opportunity to explore the working life of a teacher. The student is assigned a period of the day to aide. Details are arranged between the student, the teacher, and guidance.



Founded in 1928, WCS is a premier college preparatory institution of innovative learning that prepares students for further education, life experiences, and servant leadership. Our students and teachers strive every day to grow in character, faith, and knowledge, giving glory to God through our fellowship, our excellence, and our responsible leadership and service in the world. Our founding heritage and diversity of students offer a world-view that sets WCS apart from other Christian schools.







# WHITINSVILLE CHRISTIAN

279 Linwood Avenue  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
508-234-8211

[info@whitinsvillechristian.org](mailto:info@whitinsvillechristian.org)  
[www.whitinsvillechristian.org](http://www.whitinsvillechristian.org)