

Course Title: Bible

Textbook Title and Publisher: *More Than a Carpenter* (Living Books); *Found God's Will* (SP Publications); *The Gospel According to John Bible Study* (Class Notes)

Course Overview: The main focus is to motivate, communicate, and demonstrate for students the ability to study the Bible for themselves. The Gospel of John will be the text from which the majority of the study originates. There will also be character studies on Samson, Moses, and Esther.

Course Goals: To develop the ability to study the Bible for themselves, write down the major things learned, and read and document spiritual truths that God gives them.

Minimum Course Competencies: To be effective, the only thing students need is a willing heart.

Learning Activities: class discussion, quizzes, tests, writing, Bible reading,

Supplies Needed: Bible, pen or pencil, and a willing heart

Course Title: English

Textbook Title and Publisher: *Writing & Grammar 8 for Christian Schools* (BJU Press); *Excursions in Literature for Christian Schools* (BJU Press); *Vocabulary for Christian Schools* (BJU Press)

Course Overview: Eighth grade students take the course upon successful completion of English 7 and admission to the eighth grade. The course is designed to further prepare students for high school English courses. Students anticipating Honors English in the tenth grade should seek to master the concepts in this course.

Course Goals: To develop (1) a deeper understanding (beyond that achieved in English 7) of the English language and its literature and to increase students' skills in writing and speaking the language. (2) increased use of the terms of language analysis (3) increased skill in language analysis by understanding and identifying types of phrases and clauses, by identifying and using proper agreement, and by continued success in labeling the parts of speech, and parts of a sentence (4) to use this knowledge in the writing of effective sentences, paragraphs, and essays (5) to increase reading ability and comprehension through the study of select stories, poems, and books (6) to develop a beginning familiarity with literary terms (7) to increase the students' working vocabulary through reading assignments and vocabulary lists.

Minimum Course Competencies: Students will demonstrate an understanding of (1) proper agreement with subjects/verbs and pronouns/antecedents both in number and gender (2) an ability to identify, label, and use phrases and clauses correctly (3) a mastery of correct punctuation (4) continued development of writing skills (5) increased reading comprehension (6) and an improved vocabulary.

Learning Activities: (1) Class discussions (2) quizzes, tests, writing assignments (3) sentence paragraph analysis by teacher and student both at the whiteboard and on paper (4) reading the text and answering applicable comprehension questions (5) working on assigned exercises both inside and outside the classroom (6) help sessions (7) teacher guided reading and discussion of select pieces of literature

Supplies Needed: pen, pencil, loose-leaf paper in a 3-ring binder with dividers.

Course Title: US/NC History

Textbook Title and Publisher: *The American Republic* (Bob Jones University Press)

Course Description: This course is an overview of the history of the United States from exploration to the present. The history of North Carolina is highlighted throughout the course. Students begin the year with a separate study of the state's geography and interesting facts. Included in the course is a study of the Constitution of the United States and North Carolina's government. Map Studies and Current Events are an important part of the course. Through this course, students continue to develop their note-taking and study skills.

Course Goals: History is the record of the past, from creation to the present. Students will learn history in its total spectrum by including Biblical principles, the study of geography, current events, and the study of God's working plan. They will also gain an appreciation for our own heritage as children of God and as citizens of a great nation.

Minimum Course Competencies: Students should (1) know the topography of NC and North America (2) know major facts about the early settlements of NC and of North America (3) know major facts about the War of Independence, Civil War, WWI, and WWII (4) know major events that led to the Great Depression (5) be able to label a blank map with all the States and Capitals of America (6) be aware of major current events happening throughout the year.

Learning Activities: (1) Read the text (2) demonstrate learning on tests and quizzes (3) current events (4) state and county projects (5) compilation of assignments in a notebook (6) class discussion

Supplies Needed: Blue or black ink pen, three ring binder, notebook paper

Course Title: Pre-Algebra

Textbook Title and Publisher: *Pre-Algebra, An Accelerated Course* (Houghton Mifflin)

Course Overview: Pre-Algebra is the standard course of study for eighth grade students at Northside Christian Academy. This course is designed to prepare the students for success in Algebra I.

Course Goals: To develop: (1) an understanding of the rules governing the four basic operations of arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division); (2) an understanding of the use of number theory topics necessary for working with fractions; (3) a relationship between the rational numbers and the decimal numbers and to see that the set of real numbers consists of the rational and irrational numbers; (4) skills to solve equations and inequalities using inverse operations and transformations; (5) the use of algebra skills necessary to translate problems into open number sentences and to solve them; (6) an understanding of the fundamental concepts of geometry and its language and notation to help prepare for a more formal course in geometry; (7) an understanding of the basic concepts of ratio, proportion, and percent and to be able to apply this knowledge to real world problems.

Minimum Course Competencies: The student will be able to: (1) demonstrate a proficiency in the fundamental skills of arithmetic (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, decimals, and common fractions); (2) solve problems using positive and negative numbers and apply these to real world situations; (3) simplify expressions having exponents and to solve problems using the various properties of powers; (4) solve and graph linear equations and inequalities and apply these to word problems; (5) demonstrate a knowledge of basic geometric formulas and terms and use these to solve problems; (6) solve problems using ratio, proportion and percent and to use them to solve practical business problems; (7) demonstrate a knowledge of the coordinate plane and to graph equations, systems of equations, and inequalities.

Learning Activities: (1) problem-solving demonstrations by the teacher using both the whiteboard and the overhead; (2) class discussions; (3) working sample problems using pencil and paper, and also the whiteboard, both in class and for

homework; (4) quizzes and tests; (5) game activities related to problems in class; (6) individual and group help outside of the regular classroom.

Supplies Needed: calculator, ruler (metric/English), compass, protractor, 1 inch binder, loose leaf paper, pencil, pen (blue or black), and graph paper.

Course Title: Algebra 1

Textbook Title and Publisher: *Algebra Structure and Method Book 1* (McDougal Littell/ Houghton Mifflin)

Course Overview: Algebra is a required course for graduation from Northside Christian Academy. An eighth grade student may be placed in algebra based upon previous success in pre-algebra 7, recommendation of their seventh grade teacher, and results from the total math portion of their seventh grade achievement test. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be awarded one high school credit towards graduation. Students taking algebra in eighth grade are preparing to take Honors Geometry in ninth grade. It should be understood that a recommendation for Honors Geometry must be made by the teacher based upon both numerical grade average and total math achievement test score.

Course Goals: To develop (1) a deeper knowledge and understanding of arithmetic and to increase the student's skill in the arithmetic processes; (2) the ability to use the language and symbolism of algebra to express properties of numbers and relationships between numbers; (3) a knowledge of the basic properties of the real numbers; (4) the ability to write and solve equations and inequalities, particularly for the purpose of problem solving; (5) the ability to use mathematical models to solve real world problems; (6) an understanding of basic concepts of statistics and probability; (7) an understanding of the use of exponents and how to simplify expressions and solve equations involving exponents; (8) the ability to solve and factor polynomials; (9) an understanding of functions and linear equations, (10) skills required to excel on the college board exams.

Minimum Course Competencies: The student will be able to (1) demonstrate proficiency in the fundamental skills of arithmetic (add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers); (2) transform equations and inequalities to find a solution; (3) use equations and inequalities to solve problems; (4) write, simplify, solve and factor polynomial equations and use them for problem solving; (5) appropriately apply rules for exponents; (6) graph lines, write equations for lines and find the solution to a system of linear equations; (7) demonstrate proficiency in arithmetic skills with regard to fractions; and, (8) use fractions in problem solving regarding proportions and percents.

Learning Activities: (1) class lecture and demonstration by the teacher at the whiteboard or overhead; (2) assigned problems for practice in class and at home; (3) quizzes and tests; (4) cooperative learning in small groups; (5) practice and problem solving by students at the whiteboard; (6) review games; and (7) regular help classes outside of class time.

Supplies Needed: Scientific calculator, 3-ring binder, loose-leaf paper, graph paper, pencil, pen.

Course Title: Earth Science

Textbook Title and Publisher: *Earth Science for Christian Schools, Second Edition* (BJU Press)

Course Overview: Eighth grade students take the course upon successful completion of seventh grade Life Science. The course is designed to prepare students for higher-level science courses.

Course Goals: To develop (1) a Christian worldview through the medium of science, God's handiwork (2) insight and specific knowledge in each of the following areas of earth science: (a) the celestial sphere (b) the atmosphere (c) the lithosphere (d) the hydrosphere (3) an ability to keep an organized notebook

Minimum Course Competencies: The students will demonstrate (1) an ability to read the text and summarize the information in written form either by way of quiz or test (2) an ability to stay organized by keeping all papers throughout the quarter

Learning Activities: (1) class discussion (2) quizzes, tests, and terms quizzes (3) planet project (4) rocket project (5) creation research videos

Supplies Needed: pen, pencil, textbook, loose-leaf paper in a 3-ring binder (no dividers required), calculator, protractor

Course Title: Physical Education

Course Overview: Physical education is a course designed to improve physical fitness in an atmosphere of competition and teamwork.

Course Goals: To develop personal fitness through (1) increased endurance (2) increased flexibility (3) increased strength (4) increased speed and agility (5) understanding of the importance of physical fitness and its role in overall health (6) opportunity to build skills that will allow success in athletics and everyday life.

Minimum Course Competencies: The student will be able to: (1) demonstrate skills pertaining to various sports (2) demonstrate ability to compete in a Christ-like manner (3) complete Presidential Fitness Testing

Learning Activities: (1) Class competitions (2) drills/games (3) Plyometrics (4) weight-room activities (5) Presidential Fitness Testing

Supplies Needed: NCA PE uniform, socks, running/cross-country shoes
Locker and lock is provided to each student for class.