

COMM. CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

ENGLISH I/II: (w/British Literature or American Literature – alternating years)

Curriculum:

- Composition: Comm. Central Academy Curriculum (no purchase necessary);
- Literature: four-six classic novels - TBA
- Grammar: TBA

Credit: 1 Credit – English

Course Description:

This course should be listed as English I or II on a student's transcript, based on their grade level. The objectives of this course include:

- **Exploring all key areas of English:** literature, composition, and grammar.
- **Engaging and inspiring non-readers** by fostering a love of literature.
- **Developing critical reading and analytical skills** through the exploration of literary concepts such as character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and theme.
- **Encouraging deep thinking** and the formation of well-supported opinions.
- **Providing comprehensive composition instruction** across various essay types.
- **Teaching MLA format** and proper in-text citation techniques.

Class time will include literature discussions and composition and grammar instruction. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation and literature quizzes/activities (35%), composition grades (35%), and grammar homework and tests (30%).

ENGLISH III/IV: (w/World Literature or American Literature – alternating years)

Curriculum:

- Composition: Comm. Central Academy Curriculum (no purchase necessary)
- Literature: 6-8 classic novels - TBA

Credit: 1 Credit – English or Elective

Course Description:

This course should be listed as English III or IV on a student's transcript, depending on their grade level. It may also be marked as a literature elective if the student has completed all required English courses or is enrolled in Comp I/Comp II.

The goal of this class is to inspire students to become more informed and passionate readers. The course will focus on key literary periods and their seminal works, including select books from the college-bound reading list that may be more challenging in length or content.

Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, homework, and activities (40%), weekly literature quizzes (25%), and composition grades (35%).

NOTE: Composition assignments will be waived for students also enrolled in Comp I/II or World Literature I/II with a modified tuition of \$125 per semester.

HISTORY

HISTORY: WORLD or AMERICAN

Curriculum:

- Bob Jones Press – student text only

Course Description:

Students will read one chapter weekly, take notes according to their learning style, complete digital review exercises, and take a weekly quiz. One week is set aside at the end of each unit for review and a unit test. Class time includes a lecture with a slide show and instruction on learning styles and note taking. Semester grades will be determined based on homework completion grades, weekly quizzes, and unit tests.

Optional Second Day: Students can choose to attend an optional class session on Thursdays to receive additional support in mastering the material.

ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE OR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: Economics - ½ Credit – Social Studies

Course Description:

These courses will provide students with a deeper understanding of economic and government concepts as they relate to historical contexts. Students will engage in critical analysis and interpretation of economic theories, as well as constitutional and political issues. Both sides of each issue will be presented, helping students develop their own informed worldviews.

Economics class will include interactive activities such as role-playing, simulations, and games, followed by guided discussions to deepen understanding. The Personal Finance segment will cover practical, real-world topics, including budgeting, saving, credit, debt, consumer awareness, career planning, insurance, and taxes.

In the Government course, students will learn to respectfully debate political issues, fostering constructive disagreement without undermining relationships.

Grades will be based on class participation, weekly assignments, quizzes, and semester projects.

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE or BIOLOGY

Curriculum:

- Physical Science: Abeka Science
- Biology: Apologia Science

Credit: 1 Credit – Science

Course Description:

Students will complete all reading assignments, homework, and tests provided by the curriculum. Class time will include lecture and review, weekly labs, and bi-weekly tests. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, homework completion, lab write-ups, and tests.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

Curriculum:

- Anatomy & Physiology: Apologia

Credit: 1 Credit – Science

Course Description:

Students will complete all reading assignments, homework, and tests provided by the curriculum. Class time will include lecture and review, weekly labs, and bi-weekly tests. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, homework completion, lab write-ups, and tests.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Curriculum: Compusolar – CS Foundations (a \$60 subscription fee will be invoiced to your account)

Credit: 1 Credit – Science or Math or Elective (This course can count as a student's third science or fourth math, but not both. If the student already has three sciences and four maths, the credit can count as an elective.)

Course Description:

This course will meet one day per week and will require three hours of homework per week. To complete weekly projects, students must have access at home to a computer with Windows 7, 8, or 10 or Mac OS 10.7 or higher operating system. This course teaches fundamental computer science and coding concepts in an interactive, online environment. Students learn to code in the popular Python language and covers other fundamental computer science topics such as algorithms, data processing, digital citizenship, and much more! Class time consists of an interactive workshop. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, weekly lab projects, lesson quizzes, and chapter tests.

MATH

ALGEBRA I, GEOMETRY, or ALGEBRA II

Curriculum: All math classes: Khan Academy and/or Flipped Math (no outside purchase necessary – Comm. Central will print workbooks that will be available at the Parent Kick-off Meeting or on the first day of class.)

Credit: 1 Credit – Math

Course Description:

Students will take notes and complete assignments in the workbook, complete assignments on Khan Academy including course mastery with mastery challenges, quizzes, and tests. Class time will include lecture on new material and problem review as well as weekly Bell Ringer Quizzes and Unit Tests. Semester grades will be determined based on mastery of material, homework completion, and quiz and test scores. This course will follow the Comm. Central Academy schedule, with an additional unit to be completed over interim break.

ELECTIVES

COMPASS: CHARTING YOUR COURSE (World Rotation)

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective

Course Description:

This course will provide students with tools to better know themselves and their gifts through personality assessments, fault and virtue analysis, and writing prompts for reflection. The class will also focus on making sure that students understand the basics of habit formation and physiology so they can competently chart and stay on course for their future lives in college, work, and beyond. Class time will involve discussion and sharing, following at-home journaling. The course will conclude with a final project where skills acquired are applied in community, church, and career.

LOGIC / CRITICAL THINKING (American Rotation)

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective

Course Description:

This course is a comprehensive exploration of critical thinking, logic, and rhetoric, designed to empower students with the tools to analyze, evaluate, and construct arguments effectively. Students will develop the skills to think clearly, reason soundly, and communicate persuasively in both academic and real-world contexts.

Key topics include:

- The fundamentals of logical reasoning, including deductive and inductive arguments, fallacies, and formal systems of logic.
- Strategies for evaluating evidence, identifying bias, and constructing well-supported arguments.
- The principles of rhetoric, focusing on the interplay between persuasion, motivation, and audience awareness.
- Practical applications of critical thinking and rhetoric in writing, debate, and everyday decision-making.

Through engaging lectures, hands-on activities, and group discussions, this course aims to cultivate intellectual rigor, articulate communication, and a deeper understanding of the role of logic and rhetoric in shaping thought and action. Whether you are looking to sharpen your academic skills or enhance your ability to navigate complex ideas, this course provides the foundation for a lifetime of thoughtful and impactful reasoning.

THE FICTION OF C.S. LEWIS

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit – Elective

Course Description:

This class is a survey of the fiction of renowned twentieth-century Christian author C. S. Lewis. Course content will include his science fiction (selections from *The Space Trilogy*), theological fiction (*The Screwtape Letters*), children's fantasy (selections from *The Chronicles of Narnia*), and mythological fiction (*Till We Have Faces*). Literary criticism, biographical context, and theological concepts surrounding these works will

also be considered. Grading will be based on class participation, weekly reading quizzes, a midterm exam, and a final project.

FINE ARTS: ART HISTORY & TECHNIQUE (World Rotation)

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit – Fine Arts

Course Description:

This course will provide students with the knowledge to identify and differentiate between the major historical art movements and the artists who shaped them, and in doing so prepare students for the college-level art appreciation class. Class time will involve homework review as well as a lecture and discussion with visual reinforcement. Students will learn to think critically by discerning the aesthetics of an art piece and conceptualizing the novel ideas that inspired it, gaining a more dynamic perspective through developing their insight.

In addition, this course prepares students for the college-level art appreciation course by introducing fundamentals of drawing and design, including the exploration of line, shape, and form to enable students to translate the objects in front of them to the page and eventually create forms from imagination. Grades will be based on class participation, periodic quizzes, completion of drawing exercises taught in class, and a final project.

SPEECH & DEBATE (American Rotation)

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective

Course Description:

In this public speaking course, students will develop essential oral communication skills that build confidence, clarity, and persuasiveness in a wide range of speaking situations. Through exposure to structured limited prep speeches and improvisational activities, the class emphasizes three key areas of public speaking:

- **Improvisation:** Using improvisational exercises, students will practice reacting spontaneously to unforeseen prompts or questions. This helps them cultivate mental agility, responsiveness, and creative problem-solving, essential for high-pressure speaking situations.
- **Extemporaneous Speaking:** Students will learn strategies for organizing their thoughts quickly, articulating ideas with precision, and adapting to various topics and audiences on the spot. Emphasis is placed on clear structure, compelling delivery, and the ability to think critically under time constraints.
- **Debate:** Students will participate in structured debates to hone their argumentation, refutation, and critical thinking abilities. They will learn to present compelling evidence, anticipate counterarguments, and engage in respectful, solution-oriented dialogue.

By the end of the course, students will have sharpened their rhetorical techniques, improved their ability to think on their feet, and gained the confidence to succeed in academic, professional, and social communication settings.

MUSIC APPRECIATION

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit –Fine Arts or Elective

Course Description:

A study of the fundamentals of Western music, as well as its key historical movements from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century. Class time will consist of lecture, discussion, and hands-on activities involving representative musical pieces. Students will develop their active listening skills concerning melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, form, expression, and style across the Western musical tradition. Grading will be based on class participation, regular quizzes, four exams, and composer presentations.

CREATIVE WRITING: The Art of the Short Story

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective

Course Description:

This course will provide students with an in-depth understanding of the structure and tools relevant to writing powerful short stories, as well as provide exposure to a variety of American short stories and poetry. The first half of the school year will focus on identifying and analyzing the key elements of story: premise, character, and plot. Students will explore how authors of the past have used the elements and will work through exercises to apply these concepts to their own work. The second half of the year students will transition to writing their own pieces and workshop their ideas among their peers. Grades will be based on classroom discussion, assignment completion, and peer reviews.

ACTING AND IMPROV

Curriculum: No purchase required; a \$30 fee will be collected for scripts, costumes, and props

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective (High School)

Course Description:

This class can be seen as an extension of Comm Central's Oral Comm. curriculum, focusing on empowering students to express themselves confidently and present in the moment without limitations. This course will provide students with an in-depth understanding of the techniques and tools pioneered by dramatists and improvisers to become better performers. The first half of the school year will focus on learning the basic methods and terminology of drama and improvisation. Students will learn the importance of cooperation, listening, and saying “yes and” to create exciting scenes and become more effective communicators. The semester will culminate in a performance of a series of skits written by students based on Bible stories and myths.

The second half of the year, students will use all the skills they've learned to produce a full production. Class time will be spent analyzing scripts, blocking, and rehearsing.

PATTERNS FOR SUCCESS

Curriculum: TBA

Credit: ½ Credit – Elective

Course Description: Many students struggle with the basics of personal organization and are unable to manage time well and keep up with assignments and responsibilities. In addition, they lack good personal habits like prayer, bible reading, exercise, sleep rhythms, etc. This course will provide students with an understanding of how to get things done in today's digital age. It will focus on understanding common obstacles to productivity and how to overcome them. In addition, students will learn the power of daily and weekly routines and how to establish personal healthy habits. Class time will involve discussion and sharing, following at-home application. Grades will be based on class participation, homework completion, and an assessment of concept application.

THEOLOGY A or B

Curriculum: *Biblical Doctrine* by Wayne Grudham

Credit: ½ Credit – Elective or Career Focus

Course Description: In this course students will discover how they are actually practicing theology each and every day, yet on most occasions they do not have an understanding about the foundations of Christianity. The class is intended to take weighty issues and bring them into everyday conversation and challenge the students, yet it will not unnecessarily overload them. The course is designed to encourage a greater desire to study the Christian faith and excitement in a subject that can seem unapproachable at first glance. Theology topics have been divided into two groups (A & B) but don't have to be taken in any particular order. The textbook may seem daunting; however, it will be used to facilitate class discussion and student growth, not as something that must be read cover to cover unassisted.

APOLOGETICS A or B

Curriculum: TBA

Prerequisite: Freshmen and Sophomores should take Theology before Apologetics

Credit: ½ Credit – Elective or Career Focus

Course Description:

This course will prepare students to provide basic answers to key issues commonly raised against the Christian faith so that they will “always be ready to make a defense to everyone who asks them to give an account for the hope they have” (1 Peter 3:15).

HEALTH (American Rotation)

Curriculum: – TBA

Credit: ½ Credit – Health

Course Description: Students will complete all reading assignments, homework, and tests provided by the curriculum. Class time will include lecture, review, presentations, and weekly tests. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, homework completion, presentations, and tests.

YEARBOOK STAFF

Curriculum: no purchase necessary

Credit: ½ credit – Career Focus or Elective

Course Description:

Students will work with the yearbook staff advisor to create Comm. Central's yearbook. Staff members will plan and organize spreads, make decisions regarding yearbook theme and style, attend assigned Comm. Central events for photography purposes, write captions, and complete additional tasks required to attain a final product. Meetings will be held every other Monday on Zoom.

CONCURRENT COURSES

Credit: 1 high school credit as an elective; 3 hours of College Credit

Course Descriptions:

HIST 1003. World History I. An introductory study of the nature and development of world civilizations to 1700. (ACTS-HIST 1113)

HIST 1013. World History II. An introductory study of the evolution of modern civilizations since 1700. (ACTS-HIST 1123)

HIST 2013. U.S. History I. A general survey of the history of the United States from the beginning of North American colonization through the Civil War and Reconstruction. (ACTS-HIST 2113)

HIST 2023. U.S. History II. A general survey of the history of the United States from the end of Reconstruction to the present. (ACTS-HIST 2123)

ENGL 1113. Composition I An introduction to college-level writing with extensive practice in the writing process and basic rhetorical types as well as a review of standard editing conventions. This course also includes the building of vocabulary and the development of reading skills. (ACTS-ENGL 1013)

ENGL 1123. Composition II. Prerequisite: ENGL 1113 with a grade of C or better. Designed to confirm and extend students' ability to write educated English prose. This course seeks to enable the students, through extensive writing practice, to develop their skills in each of several rhetorical and critical types. While emphasizing writing, the course also requires continued vocabulary development and analytical reading in literature of various types. The course also introduces students to the conventions of documentation and manuscript form. (ACTS-ENGL 1023)

MATH 1023. College Algebra A study of quadratic equations and inequalities, additional graphs of functions and relations, systems of linear equations, inverse functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, polynomial and rational functions. (ACTS-MATH 1103)

MATH 1033. Plane Trigonometry. Prerequisite: MATH 1023 with a grade of C or higher. A study of triangles, radian measure, polar coordinates, trigonometric functions and their related graphs, formulae, and identities. (ACTS-MATH 1203)

ART 2013. Art Appreciation. Designed for the general student, the course attempts to present art as part of our cultural heritage. Basic terms and the characteristics of styles and periods. Includes familiarization with art equipment and process. (ACTS-ARTA 1003)

SPCH 1113. Intro to Public Speaking. Principles of effective speaking; emphasis on both transmission and reception of the communicative process; the speaking mechanism and delivery. (ACTS-SPCH 1003)

ENGL 2213. World Literature I. Prerequisite: ENGL 1123. World masterpieces through the Renaissance. (ACTS-ENGL 2113)

ENGL 2223. World Literature II. Prerequisite: ENGL 1123. World masterpieces from 1660 to the present. (ACTS-ENGL)