

COMM. CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL 9-10th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CLASSICAL CORE:

- Comm. Central embraces the principles of classical education, an important component of which is the integration of subjects for greater learning through studying multiple subjects within their historical context.
- The history class is the organizing outline for Literature, Fine Arts Survey, and Government or Economics.
- Conducting studies in this manner provides a greater ability to synthesize information in the adjacent fields and engage more with the culture. In this way, the lessons become more meaningful, and understanding and retention increases.
- Half credit courses are spread over the full year to align with history and literature.

HISTORY: WORLD or AMERICAN

Curriculum:

- World: *World History* 5th edition by Bob Jones Press – student text only
- American: *U.S. History* 5th edition by 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 PowerPoint 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.

Tuition – Tuesday only: \$150 per semester

Optional Second Day: Students can choose to attend an optional class session on Thursdays to receive additional support in mastering the material. \$75 per semester

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:
 - 9th Grade - *Jensen's Grammar*
 - 10th Grade - *Barron's SAT & ACT Grammar Workbook*
 - This is an optional purchase - all homework will be provided.
 - Students who need visual reinforcement of the lesson presented in class should try to purchase a used copy as it is out of print.

Credit: 1 Credit – English

Course Description:

This course should be listed as English I or II on a student's transcript according to his/her grade level. Course objectives for this class include the following:

- Covering all aspects of English: literature, composition, and grammar;

- Inspiring the non-reader;
- Cultivating an understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts, exploring literary concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and theme;
- Encouraging students to think deeply and form opinions;
- Providing composition instruction in all types of essays; and
- Teaching MLA format and proper in-text citations.

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%).

Tuition – Tuesday and Thursday: \$250 per semester

FINE ARTS: ART HISTORY & TECHNIQUE

Curriculum:

- World: *Art that Changed the World* by DK
- American: TBD

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.

Tuition – Tuesday only: \$150 per semester

ECONOMICS / PERSONAL FINANCE OR AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Curriculum:

- Economics and Personal Finance: *The Economics Book: Big Ideas Simply Explained* by DK and *Foundations in Personal Finance: High School Edition* for Homeschool Student Textbook by Dave Ramsey
- Government: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to U.S. Government and Politics* 2nd Edition by Franco Sardino

Credit: Economics - ½ Credit – Social Studies

Course Description:

These courses will provide students with a more in-depth understanding of monetary or government topics as they are presented in history class. Students will be guided in analyzing, interpreting, and thinking through economic theory or constitutional and

political issues. Both sides of every issue will be taught, and students will be guided in developing their own worldviews. Government students will learn how to argue and disagree on political issues, without it affecting their relationships or respect for one another. Economics class time will include role-play activities, simulations, and games with guided discussion. Personal Finance will cover many practical topics like budgeting basics, saving money, credit and debt, consumer awareness, career readiness, college planning, financial services, the role of insurance, income and taxes, housing and real estate, investing and retirement, and global economics. Grades will be based on class participation, weekly homework assignments, quizzes, and semester projects.

Tuition – Tuesday only: \$150 per semester

SCIENCE:

PHYSICAL SCIENCE or BIOLOGY

Curriculum:

- Physical Science: *Science: Matter and Energy* 2nd Edition by Abeka Science
 - Student Text
 - Quiz and Test Book Volume 1 and 2
- Biology: *Biology* 5th Edition by Abeka Science
 - Student Text
 - Quiz and Test Book Volume 1 and 2

Credit: 1 Credit – Science

Course Description:

Students will complete all reading assignments, homework, and tests provided by the Abeka 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.

Physical Science Tuition (Tues. & Thur.): \$250 per semester plus a \$30 lab fee

Biology Tuition (Tues. & Thur.): \$250 per semester plus a \$50 lab fee

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.

Algebra I Tuition – Tuesday and Thursday: \$225 per semester plus a \$30 workbook

Geometry Tuition – Tuesday and Thursday: \$250 per semester plus a \$60 workbook
Algebra II Tuition – Tuesday and Thursday: \$250 per semester plus a \$30 workbook

OTHER ELECTIVES:

Half credit electives are spread over the full year to balance workload.

MYTHOLOGY or FICTION OF C.S. LEWIS

Curriculum:

- Mythology: Bulfinch's Mythology: A Modern Abridgment
- C.S. Lewis: various C.S. Lewis texts

Credit: ½ Credit –Elective

Course Description:

Mythology: An introduction to Greek, Roman, Norse, and Arthurian myth. Class time will include lecture and discussion over the themes underlying these stories and figures, as well as their influence on western culture across art, literature, history, and philosophy. Grading will be based on class participation, lecture quizzes, myth reenactments, an adaptation presentation, and two semester exams.

C.S. Lewis: This course is an intensive study of the fiction of renowned twentieth-century author and theologian C. S. Lewis. Course content will cover his religious fiction (*The Screwtape Letters* and *The Great Divorce*), science fiction (selections from the Space Trilogy), children's literature (selections from the Chronicles of Narnia), and mythological fiction (*Till We Have Faces*). Literary criticism, historical context, and theological influence surrounding these works will also be considered. Assignments will include weekly reading quizzes, a critical paper, and a group research presentation. Grades will be based on class participation, quiz scores, and project evaluation.

Tuition – Tuesday only: \$150 per semester

PATTERNS FOR SUCCESS

Curriculum: *Do More Better* by Tim Challies

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.

Tuition – Thursday only: \$150 per semester

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Curriculum: Compuscular – CS Foundations (a \$50 subscription fee will be invoiced to your account)

Credit: 1 Credit –Elective, Science, or Math

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. Students will learn about hardware, software, and operating systems, how to manage files, basic networking, computer security, applications, databases, introductory website design, and simple computer programming concepts. Class time will include lecture and review. Semester grades will be determined based on class participation, weekly lab projects, lesson quizzes, and chapter tests.

Tuition – Thursday only: \$150 per semester

CREATIVE WRITING: The Art of the Short Story

Curriculum: TBD

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.

Tuition – Tuesday only: \$150 per semester

SPEECH AND DEBATE

Curriculum: None required

Credit: ½ Credit – Oral Communication or Elective

Course Description:

This course prepares students to become more adequate speakers and fulfills the half credit needed for graduation. Students will complete a formal speech first semester. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the art of rhetoric, both in writing the speech and in delivery. While students are perfecting their writing and memorization, class time will focus on improvisation games to master interpersonal communication and presentation skills. Second semester will focus on mastering extemporaneous speaking (reporting on current events), college interview skills, and Parliamentary debate skills.

Tuition – Thursday only: \$150 per semester

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.

Tuition – Thursday only: \$150 per semester

APOLOGETICS A or B

Curriculum:

- Apologetics A: TBD
- Apologetics B: *Ten Questions Every Teen Should Ask (and Answer) About Christianity* by Rebecca McLaughlin

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).

Tuition – Thursday only: \$150 per semester

CAREER FOCUS/ELECTIVE

Curriculum: TBD – Student and Instructor Developed

Credit: ½ or 1 credit – Career Focus

Students can earn either a full or half credit of career focus depending on the curriculum they choose and how they develop their syllabus. Students completing sixty hours of work (2 hours per week for thirty weeks) will earn a half credit, and students completing one hundred twenty hours of work (4 hours per week for thirty weeks) will earn a full credit.

Course Description:

Instructor will guide the student in determining curriculum needs and developing a course description and syllabus for independent study. One-on-one, ten-minute weekly sessions will be held during Tuesday study halls and will provide accountability, course and project guidance, and an outlet for self-expression and creativity. Students enrolled in Career Focus will participate in Comm. Central's Unique Design Fair at the end of the school year. Semester grades will be determined based on active participation in guidance sessions and homework and project completion.

Tuition – Session date/time TBD: \$75 per semester

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.

Tuition: \$75 per semester