

COVENANT DAY SCHOOL

SOPHOMORE **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

Updated 3/2007

LANGUAGE ARTS 10

The 10th grade Language Arts course will provide a strong foundation in the study of American Literature from the colonial times to the present. The course will be strongly literature-based but will continue to emphasize writing development, vocabulary, and grammar.

Students will be exposed to genres of American Literature including poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and nonfiction. As students encounter works from the major literary periods, they will trace the development of American values and philosophical concepts and filter these ideas through a biblical world view.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 9th Grade Language Arts
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS 10

The 10th grade Honors Language Arts course will provide a strong foundation in the study of American Literature from the colonial times to the present. The course will be strongly literature-based but will continue to emphasize writing development, vocabulary, and grammar.

Students will be exposed to genres of American Literature including poetry, short stories, novels, drama, and nonfiction. As students encounter works from the major literary periods, they will trace the development of American values and philosophical concepts and filter these ideas through a biblical world view.

The honors section of this course differs in the expectations, intensity, and depth of study. Students will read additional books and complete more complex writing assignments than those in the regular American Literature course. It will be expected that students' thoughts and writing will show advanced skills of analysis and expression. Their work will be evaluated accordingly.

Prerequisite: "B" average or higher in 9th grade English and teacher approval
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

INFORMAL GEOMETRY

Geometry is the branch of mathematics that is most easily witnessed in God's creation. From the intricacies of nature to the expanses of the universe, careful examination reveals evidence of number, form and shape, order, symmetry, harmony, and accuracy. In this course, students will develop an appreciation for and understanding of the works of God as they learn the underlying principles of geometry. Informal Geometry encompasses the same basic topics as Regular Geometry, including all competencies recommended by the College Board in preparation for the PSAT and SAT. However, Informal Geometry places less emphasis on formal deduction and the two-column proof, and it stresses informal deductive reasoning.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

GEOMETRY

Geometry is the branch of mathematics that is most easily witnessed in God's creation. From the intricacies of nature to the expanses of the universe, careful examination reveals the evidence of number, form and shape, order, symmetry, harmony, and accuracy. In this course, students will develop an appreciation for and understanding of the works of God as they learn the underlying principles of geometry. Regular Geometry will develop the students' critical thinking skills by introducing geometry concepts and completing practical examples. Emphasis will be on the mastery of the basic concepts while incorporating Algebra I skills to solve problems. Regular Geometry should adequately prepare these students for Algebra II and help lay the foundation for more advanced courses.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS GEOMETRY

Honors Geometry will cover all of the material mentioned in Regular Geometry. However, the students in this class will have a higher concentration on two-column proofs and be asked to do more individual and group investigations than those students in the regular class. The topics will be discussed in greater depth and the pace of the class is faster. Honors Geometry will prepare these students for the more rigorous Algebra II Honors and other advanced math courses.

Prerequisite: "B" average or higher in Algebra I and teacher approval
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

ALGEBRA II

Algebra II is a course that builds on the basic skills acquired in Algebra I and the logic skills and spatial relationships attained in Geometry. Abstract thinking continues to be developed as the course examines functions through multiple representations, such as graphs, tables, and symbolic notation. Extensive work with transformations in each function family helps to prepare students for advanced courses where an extensive knowledge of functions is necessary. The use of graphing calculators is integral to this course for presenting, understanding, and reinforcing concepts. This tool also makes it possible to use “real” data in exercises and application problems. Throughout the course, emphasis is given to understanding the relationship between God and his created world as described in mathematics and the natural sciences. Also, as students develop the rational thinking necessary to understand algebra, they are also encouraged to use this same rational thinking in formulating theological arguments and defending their faith.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS ALGEBRA II

Honors Algebra II is a course that builds on the basic skills acquired in Algebra I and the logic skills and spatial relationships attained in Geometry. Abstract thinking continues to be developed as the course examines functions through multiple representations, such as graphs, tables, and symbolic notation. Extensive work with transformations in each function family helps to prepare students for advanced courses where an extensive knowledge of functions is necessary. The use of graphing calculators is integral to this course for presenting, understanding, and reinforcing concepts. This tool also makes it possible to use “real” data in exercises and application problems. The Honors section of this course includes additional topics such as conic sections and trigonometry to prepare students for a full Pre-Calculus class the following year. Throughout the course, emphasis is given to understanding the relationship between God and his created world as described in mathematics and the natural sciences. Also, as students develop the rational thinking necessary to understand algebra, they are also encouraged to use this same rational thinking in formulating theological arguments and defending their faith.

Prerequisite: “B” average or higher in Honors Geometry (or A in Geometry) and teacher approval

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is the study of the composition, structure, and properties of matter and the changes each undergoes. This is a problem-solving course designed to coordinate the theoretical elements of the science with laboratory experimentation. Students will receive an introduction to the major divisions of chemistry such as the structure of matter,

atomic theory, bonding, stoichiometry, and acid/bases. This course will develop a greater understanding and appreciation for the order and design of God's creation.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of previous year's science and math as well as teacher approval

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS CHEMISTRY

Honors chemistry is a fast-paced introductory chemistry course. Students will witness God's creation and His attention to detail in the submicroscopic workings of the atom. The course will include the structure of matter, atomic theory, bonding, stoichiometry, kinetics, acids and bases, oxidation/reduction, and organic chemistry. Students will be expected to solve problems using high level thinking and math skills, solve open-ended laboratory investigations, implement the latest technology in experimental design and data collection, and will be able to communicate obtained results and observations. The student will develop a personal concern and appreciation of the responsibilities facing the scientist from a Christian worldview.

Prerequisite: "B" or higher in biology and recommended in geometry as well as teacher approval

Credit: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

UNITED STATES HISTORY

This course is an historical survey of the United States focusing on the people, ideas, beliefs, events, and institutions that have shaped the growth and character of this nation. It seeks to provide a basic overview of U.S. history. The student will be able to identify and describe the significance of key persons, events, and documents, as well as demonstrate a basic understanding of the philosophical ideas, religious beliefs, and political theories that shape the culture of a time period in the context of a Biblical worldview. A Biblical critique of the various political theories is an additional consideration.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ninth grade history

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY

This course is an historical study of the United States focusing on the people, ideas, beliefs, events, and institutions that have shaped the growth and character of this nation.

It is conceptual in nature, seeking not only a basic overview but also a deeper, thematic understanding of U.S. History in the context of a Biblical worldview.

In addition to the objectives of the Regular level U.S. History course, the student will be expected to demonstrate an analytical and synthetical understanding of the spiritual, economic, social, political, and philosophical unfolding within human culture as it relates to United States history, both vertically from a worldview conceptualization to customs and lifestyle in a given period and linearly as culture is transformed over a period of time.

Prerequisite: "B" or higher in World History and teacher approval
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

AP (Advanced Placement) UNITED STATES HISTORY

This course is unique in that it represents a college freshman level survey of U. S. History. Therefore, in addition to addressing the basic objectives of the U. S. History course, it also emphasizes primary document research and analysis, collegiate level reading and critique, and historical essay writing. The Advanced Placement course in U.S. History is a college-level course, completion of which entitles the student to take the AP exam for potential college credit. A student must sit for the AP exam in order to receive the additional quality point over and above the Honors level course.

Biographies studied will all involve examination of worldview, as will secular historical interpretation compared to the Christ-centered template.

Prerequisite: "B" or higher in Honors World History and in Honors Language Arts 9 and teacher approval
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 6.0

HEALTH

Health education encourages the student to maintain a healthy level of wellness and awareness in order to glorify God by honoring the body as His temple. By covering all aspects of spiritual, physical, social, mental, and emotional health, the student is armed with the knowledge necessary to make decisions and set goals that will help establish a healthy lifestyle.

Pre-requisite: None
Credits: 0.5 GPA scale: 4.0

BIBLE: NEW TESTAMENT

Bible 10 will be a one-semester survey of the New Testament. This course is a survey of God's plan for the redemption of His people as fulfilled in the life of Jesus Christ. It is designed to acquaint the student with the structure, authors, and major ideas of the New Testament. The students will not only study the life of Christ and the plan of the spread of the Gospel, but they will also understand how this impacts their lives today. This class provides the basis for better understanding and integration of the teaching of the Old Testament with the New Testament.

Prerequisite: None – required course for all 10th graders

Credits: 0.5 GPA scale: 4.0

FRENCH I

The text *Discovering French Nouveau! Bleu* is part of a carefully articulated three-level sequence of French instruction. Each level has its own special focus which builds in a spiraling progression across levels. The first level, *Bleu*, teaches basic communication with learned phrases, simple questions and answers, simple descriptions of people and things, simple narrations in the present tense (with an introduction to past narration), as well as simple explanations as to why something is done. Themes such as greeting and meeting people, time and weather, family and friends, food and restaurants, money and shopping, school and education, daily activities, getting around a city, describing oneself, home and furnishings, possessions and their description, sports, fitness, daily routines, medical and dental care, clothing and personal appearance, leisure activities, music and entertainment, vacation and travel, and transportation are introduced.

In the spring, students participate in the National French Exam (Le Grand Concours) sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. This nationally recognized exam represents a reliable assessment of achievement, comparing thousands of American students yearly.

With the school's Christian mission in mind, some familiar Bible passages are presented in French as an introduction to theological vocabulary and as a reminder that the Word was sent to all people. Critical thinking from a Biblical worldview is encouraged particularly in the area of cultural comparisons.

Prerequisite: None

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

FRENCH II

The text, *Discovering French Nouveau! Blanc*, builds upon the foundation of the first year. This level teaches creative conversation with asking and answering of more complex questions, more detailed descriptions, including simple comparisons of people, things and actions, basic narration of past conditions and events (using passé composé

and imparfait tenses) as well as future events, discussions of hypothetical conditions and events, and expression of personal wishes, needs and obligations. Themes introduced during the first year are reviewed and amplified. New themes such as jobs and professions, helping around the house, and nature and the environment are introduced. In the spring, students participate in the National French Exam (Le Grand Concours) sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. This nationally recognized exam represents a reliable assessment of achievement, comparing thousands of American students yearly.

With the school's Christian mission in mind, some familiar Bible passages are included in French as a continued introduction to theological vocabulary and as a reminder that the Word was sent to all people. Critical thinking from a Biblical worldview is encouraged particularly in the area of cultural comparisons.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of French I and teacher approval

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

LATIN I

Instruction is built around a narrative of the daily lives of a Roman family and thus integrates cultural, historical, and geographical material into the Latin readings. Latin I covers basic information about Latin nouns, adjectives and adverbs. All conjugations of verbs are presented in all tenses and in the active voice. Grammar is clearly presented but always in conjunction with how it is used to convey content in readings. Since the long-term goal in the study of a classical language is to develop reading fluency, special attention is paid to developing a reading strategy by addressing the different levels of discourse, the various basic sentence types, and the integration of grammar with vocabulary.

The study of Latin lends itself to a discussion of how the historical and geographical context of the Roman Empire affected the development of the Christian church, as well as how the use of Latin has shaped theological language and our understanding of the Incarnation.

Latin students take the National Latin Exam and the Medusa Mythology Exam, two nationally-given exams, and medals and certificates are awarded for high scores in each. In April, students attend the North Carolina Junior Classical League Convention for which they are required to prepare a project or oral presentation, as well as a pre-convention creative writing piece on a classical theme. CDS also competes in NCJCL Certamen, a general-knowledge contest sponsored by JCL.

Prerequisite: "B" average in previous year's English

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

LATIN II

Students continue in the *Ecce Romani* series. Instruction continues to be built around a narrative of the daily lives of a Roman family to integrate additional cultural, historical, and geographical material into the Latin readings. These become more complex, utilizing all declensions, all conjugations – active and passive – as well as subordinate clauses of most kinds. Students are introduced to the subjunctive and to reported speech. The course includes some authentic Latin texts, both secular and theological. The study of Latin lends itself to a discussion of how the historical and geographical context of the Roman Empire affected the development of the Christian church, as well as how the use of Latin has shaped theological language and our understanding of the Incarnation.

Latin students take the National Latin Exam and the Medusa Mythology Exam, two nationally-given exams, and medals and certificates are awarded for high scores in each. In April, students attend the North Carolina Junior Classical League Convention for which they are required to prepare a project or oral presentation, as well as a pre-convention creative writing piece on a classical theme. CDS also competes in NCJCL Certamen, a general-knowledge contest sponsored by JCL.

Prerequisite: “B” average in Latin I (or in 8th Grade Latin at CDS) and teacher approval
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS LATIN III

Latin III is traditionally the year where students consolidate grammar skills and read authentic Latin authors. *Ecce Romani Book III* features prose selections that deal with life at home and abroad during the early Roman Empire. Historical authors include Caesar, Cicero, Eutropius, Asconius, Augustus and Pliny.

Special attention is drawn to the life and persecution of Christians in the Empire, as well as to how an understanding of original Latin theological vocabulary can enhance understanding of theological concepts.

Latin students take the National Latin Exam and the Medusa Mythology Exam, two nationally-given exams, and medals and certificates are awarded for high scores in each. In April, students attend the North Carolina Junior Classical League Convention for which they are required to prepare a project or oral presentation, as well as a pre-convention creative writing piece on a classical theme. CDS also competes in NCJCL Certamen, a general-knowledge contest sponsored by JCL.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin II and teacher approval; recommended “B” average or higher
Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

SPANISH I

The purpose of Spanish 1 at Covenant Day School is to develop the ability in students to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment using simple sentences containing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing with emphasis on the ability to communicate orally and in writing. Traditions, customs, beliefs, and cultural contributions of the Spanish speaking community, and how these elements relate to language are also emphasized. Students function in a variety of practical settings using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

As we seek to better understand another language and culture, we broaden our understanding of the God who made all of us in His image. Learning another language provides us with increased opportunities for service and affords us a wider sphere of influence in contributing to the building up of the kingdom of God.

Prerequisite: None

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

SPANISH II

The purpose of the Spanish 2 course at Covenant Day School is to provide a classroom experience that combines reading, writing, and speaking the language with elements of the Hispanic culture. The text, Paso a Paso 2, is designed to build upon and enhance the vocabulary and grammatical concepts that were learned in Spanish 1 by providing both oral and written communication. This book, with its basic subjects and experiences that occur in everyday life, provides a context to which students relate. Each chapter includes vocabulary coordinated with one or more grammar objectives. Students are encouraged to use new vocabulary in both previously learned and unfamiliar grammatical contexts, thus creating a spiral curriculum. Class time includes listening comprehension, reading comprehension, and both oral and written exercises. Most of the class is conducted in Spanish, but grammatical concepts are taught in English.

As we seek to better understand another language and culture, we broaden our understanding of the God who made all of us in His image. Learning another language provides us with increased opportunities for service and affords us a wider sphere of influence in contributing to the building up of the kingdom of God.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I and teacher approval; recommended “B” or higher

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 4.0

HONORS SPANISH III

The purpose of the Spanish 3 course at Covenant Day School is to enable students to enhance proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. There is continued emphasis designed to build upon and enhance vocabulary and grammatical concepts that were learned in Spanish 1 and 2. Students continue in development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course.

The content may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- conversational expression of feelings, ideas, and opinions in Spanish
- comprehension of spoken and written Spanish
- oral and written presentation of information and ideas, in Spanish, to an audience
- social interaction patterns within Hispanic culture(s)
- connections between the Spanish language and culture(s) and other disciplines
- communication patterns of languages
- Spanish language usage within and beyond the school

As we seek to better understand another language and culture, we broaden our understanding of the God who made all of us in His image. Learning another language provides us with increased opportunities for service and affords us a wider sphere of influence in contributing to the building up of the kingdom of God.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Spanish II and teacher approval; recommended "B" or higher

Credits: 1.0 GPA scale: 5.0

10th Grade Elective Options (all electives are one credit courses)

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Courses noted with an “” meet the fine arts requirement for graduation.*

***Art I** – (students who have not taken HS Art before) – This is a course designed to introduce the beginning artist to various techniques of creating artworks and exploring how God’s beauty is reflected in our world every day. The basic elements of design, composition and color-theory are introduced. Artworks are produced through drawing, painting, mixed-media, and sculpture.

***Art II** – This is a course designed to expand on the techniques and processes studied in Art I. The focus of the class will be the creating of artworks in the four main areas of drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed-media and wheel-thrown ceramics. Students are tested on important artists and art vocabulary, and are expected to use this terminology for class critiques (both self-critiques and peer critiques). Students explore various Biblical principles and how to incorporate them into their artworks. *Prerequisite: Art I and teacher approval*

***Band I** – Students will begin to learn an instrument. This is for students with limited or no prior band experience. Please indicate the instrument(s) of which you are most interested in learning and playing.

***Band II** – Students will review basic skills of scales, rhythms, and theory. The main focus will be learning, reading, and performing traditional band literature. Musicianship and technical skills are emphasized and applied through ensemble performance. *Prerequisite: Band in 2006-7*

Chapel Preparation – This course is designed for students to plan weekly chapel times as well as practice with the praise and worship team. *Students will have interviews/auditions for this course.*

***Choir-** The students will become members of Covenant Day School’s high school choir and will learn a variety of music. *Auditions will be announced.*

Debate – Students will research topics, formulate logical arguments, and present and debate issues.

***Graphic Design & Photography** – This course will be an introduction to basic graphic design and photography. An extra fee may be required for this course. *Prerequisite: teacher approval*

Latin I- Students use the Ecce Romani series, the inductive text, as an introduction to the study of Latin. Instruction is built around a narrative about the daily lives of some fictitious Roman children, and stresses translations skills, and awareness of the contrasting culture. Class work stresses mastery of vocabulary, along with verb and noun endings.

***New Media Productions** - New Media Productions is a digital binary form of broadcasting. New Media Production is the creation of audio and video formats to be aired via the Internet or to be printed on CD or DVD. This class will create a real life industry experience which will include hands-on production of sporting events, special programs, and other school-related media projects. Hours outside of class will be expected. It is designed specifically for students who are interested in broadcast media.

Newspaper – Students will learn journalistic techniques and will be involved in the process of publishing the CDS student newspaper, *The Independent*. Students will participate in news writing, reporting, feature writing, proofreading, photography, and graphic design and layout. *Prerequisite: teacher approval*

Peer Tutoring – Students will receive or give tutoring from or to another peer in specific areas. This is designed to assist students in either a specific subject area or with organizational skills. Specific responsibilities will vary depending on the student and the arranged pupil/tutor contracts. No credit is earned by students being tutored.

Pre-AP Computer Science – The course is an introduction to Object Oriented Programming using the JAVA language. Students can expect to learn basic programming terminology, computer hardware basics, and coding programs using JAVA. Students can also expect to learn how to develop an effective problem-solving algorithm. The class will be presented in a combination of lectures and classroom exercises. This course will prepare one for AP Computer Science A.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Science Olympiad – This course is designed for students interested in furthering their skills in science. A significant part of this course will be directed towards preparation for the Science Olympiad competition in the spring which is required for all students in this course.

Student Services – This is an opportunity to be an aide to a teacher within the school or to a staff person in another ministry of the church. Indicate where or with whom you would like to serve.

Study Hall – This will be an independent study hall for students to complete work at school. Students will be required to sign and uphold a study hall contract. No credit will be earned for study hall.

***Theatre I** – This is a beginning course in Theatre for which no previous experience is required. However, an open mind, a lot of enthusiasm, and self-discipline will be very helpful. The objective of this course is to provide students with a comfortable and well-rounded sense of themselves as performers, their relation to other student actors/classmates, and to their environment. At the same time, students will develop skills of perception, awareness, and appreciation for the craft of theatre as an art form and as a learning process. Students will perform a one-act play at night to be performed for an audience. Students may have after-school rehearsals and duties.

***Theatre II** – Students will expand on their knowledge of acting techniques from previous course studies. Student expectations are higher, due to the intense nature of this course. Students will expand on their developing skills of perception, awareness, and appreciation for the craft of theatre as an art form and as a learning process. Students will perform a one-act play at night in the fall and will have an active part in the major school play. After-school rehearsals and back-stage responsibilities may be a part of this course. (Prerequisite: Theatre I & teacher approval)

Yearbook – Students who choose this elective will publish the school yearbook.
Pre-requisite: Current year English teacher recommendation and teacher approval from yearbook advisor

CDS High School Graduation Requirements:

A student must accumulate the following Carnegie Units (CUs) to graduate from Covenant Day School: 24 credits (CUs) - 4 units of Math, 4 units of Language Arts, 3 units of Social Studies, 3 units of Science, 3 units of Bible (must be enrolled in a Bible course each year at CDS), ½ unit of PE, ½ unit of Health, 6 elective units (1 of which must be a fine arts credit). A student must also complete a total of 100 service hours during the high school years. (Note: Admission to most colleges requires a minimum of 2 years of the same foreign language.)