

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

STUDIA HUMANITATIS

Theology I: 9th grade students will study the historic and poetic books of the Old Testament in order to understand and fully discover the christocentricity of the Old Testament Scriptures. Luther's Small Catechism will be reviewed during this first year. In addition, Martin Luther's Large Catechism will be taught. Students will also review the Lutheran view of biblical interpretation and hermeneutics and examine it in light of other denominational traditions.

Humane Letters I (English I): The study of English literature and grammar, as well as the classics, prepares students to enter into the "great conversation." 9th grade students will read the ancient epics, as well as timeless "classics" of literature in order to best understand the inheritance they have in western civilization. Emphasis will be given in writing toward the mastery of the classical fore-exercises, the *progymnasmata*. Writing, vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and reading comprehension will be addressed in order to best situate students to access the literature of humanity, "the humane letters."

History I: 9th grade students learn the history of ideas and events from the early ages of humanity through to the birth of Christ. Ample time is given to the ancient world in order to carefully lay a foundation for understanding how humanity has understood itself. Instruction is done through primary sources, as well as standard secondary sources. This will give students an appropriate lens into how history is done and what its import is for Christian students today.

QUADRIVIUM

Algebra I - Saxon Algebra I focuses on the essential principles of Algebra. Topics include but are not limited to: linear equations, Cartesian coordinate system, introduction to polynomials and quadratics, rational expressions, factoring, introduction to systems of equations, radicals, basic set theory. Introduction to function notation, surface area, right prisms and cylinders, pyramids and cones, ratios and proportion, scientific notation, introduction to statistics, Pythagorean theorem and triples, and transformations. **Prerequisite:** Saxon Pre-Algebra. Students from other programs will complete the Saxon Placement Test.

Geometry: Saxon Geometry. Essential skills in geometrical reasoning. We will cover all essential geometrical figures and their properties using the Saxon method. Each week students will cover between three and four lessons from the Saxon text. In addition to specifically assigned problems as featured in each lesson, additional problems will be provided with the goal of putting Geometry in the context of everyday life. **Prerequisite:** Recommended to be taken after Saxon Algebra I. Students from other programs will complete the Saxon Placement Test.

Biology: Studies will include biochemistry, cell structure, photosynthesis, genetics, plants, microorganisms, anatomy, and much more. This standard Biology course offers a lab science, 1-credit High School Biology course. Textbook assignments, experiments, and written work comprise the assignments. Students should expect to take about 4 to 5 hours/week to complete the work. It fulfills one lab science credit for graduation. This standard option is recommended for students who are not planning on going into the sciences after the completion of their Upper School program.

****Honors Biology** option includes all of the above. Credit is given for 1-lab science, 1-credit Honors Biology. Textbook assignments, experiments, events in science, optional hands-on activities, and written work comprise the regular workload. Students should expect 5-6 hours/week to complete the assignments.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Latin I: This course is meant for the beginning Latin student or one who is in need of review of the basics of Latin grammar and syntax. Using Henle I as the main text, with other supplemental materials (Wheelock, Jenney's, et al), students will survey Latin grammar in order to build strong foundations in translating and analyzing the Latin language. Students will also be exposed to the Vulgate and the Latin Small Catechism throughout their course of study. No prior knowledge of Latin is necessary for Latin I.

Latin II: This course is the second step in high school Latin mastery, as well as a good place for advanced students to begin their high school studies. Students will use Henle II as the main text, supplementing with studies from the Vulgate and the Augsburg Confession. Grammar and syntax review occurs alongside the translation of excerpts from Caesar. This year of study prepares students to tackle Caesar's Gallic Wars in Latin III. **Prerequisites:** Latin I or qualifying entrance exam.