



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN SCHOOL
Classical Education

**PROGRAM OF STUDY
FOR THE UPPER SCHOOL**



Table of Contents

MISSION	3
VISION	3
INTRODUCTION	3
CLASSICAL EDUCATION AT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL	5
GRADING	6
<i>GRADING</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>GRADING SCALE</i>	<i>6</i>
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	7
<i>A SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Academic Credits</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATIONS</i>	<i>8</i>
CURRICULUM FOR THE UPPER SCHOOL	9
ACADEMICS	9
<i>STUDIA HUMANITATIS (THE CORE HUMANITIES STUDIES)</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Theology</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Humane Letters (English Literature and Composition)</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>History</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Languages</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>LOGIC AND RHETORIC</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>THE QUADRIVIUM (THE MATHEMATICAL ARTS)</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Science</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Mathematics</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>THE FINE ARTS</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>MUSIC EDUCATION</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Music Theory</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Choir</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Strings Ensemble/Chamber Music</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Band</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Handbells</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>VISUAL ART</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>ATHLETICS</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Physical Education</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Health (Ninth grade)</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>ELECTIVES AND INDEPENDENT STUDY (NINTH THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE ONLY)</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Electives</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Independent Study</i>	<i>16</i>
CHAPEL	16
LIBRARY	16
UNIFORMS	17
EVENTS AND ENRICHMENT	19



<i>SWING AND BALLROOM DANCE</i>	19
<i>"6TH – 8TH GRADE GET-AWAY"</i>	19
<i>UPPER SCHOOL RETREAT</i>	19
<i>MEN'S MEAL AND LADIES' LUNCHEON</i>	20
<i>YOUTH ROOM FRIDAY LUNCH BREAK</i>	20

MISSION

Memorial Lutheran School's mission is to "build a strong foundation" for the love of God and neighbor. This is done through the spiritual foundation of the preaching and teaching of the Gospel and the academic foundation of a comprehensive, classical education.

VISION

Memorial Lutheran School (MLS) seeks to care for the Church and the world by forming each student to be equipped academically for service to the neighbor, with faith in Christ that is evident in his or her life.

INTRODUCTION

The Upper School program at Memorial Lutheran School offers both breadth and depth across the seven classical liberal arts, grounded in a Lutheran Christian worldview, and enriched with the arts and athletics, to students beginning in the 9th grade. Memorial Lutheran Upper School celebrates its inaugural year on the 40th anniversary of Memorial Lutheran School. Memorial Lutheran Church and School voted in January of 2020 to launch Memorial Lutheran Upper School's 9th grade in the 2020-2021 academic year. Each following year, one upper school grade will be added, with the class of 2024 being the first upper school graduating class of Memorial Lutheran School. MLS will offer upper school grades according to the following schedule:

Academic year

2020-2021 - 9th grade

2021-2022 – 9th, 10th grade

2022-2023 - 9th, 10th, and 11th grade

2023-2024 - 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade



The information offered here explains the Upper School Program of Study at Memorial Lutheran School.



CLASSICAL EDUCATION AT MEMORIAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Classical education is the name we give today for an approach to education marked by several key components. At its roots, classical education was the way the ancient Greeks educated their children, both in content and in form. The Greeks believed that instead of specializing in one area, children should be educated broadly across all subjects, and that a truly educated person was someone who had mastered literature, history, mathematics, astronomy, science and philosophy, and languages. The Greeks also believed that learning was best achieved in more than one way, and so they taught children how to acquire knowledge through memorization of information, logical and critical thinking about the information they gained, and rhetorical skills, or the use of language, which we sometimes describe as writing, speaking, and the formation and expression of ideas.

Modern education has gradually seen the erosion of this type of learning. In an eagerness to advance students' achievement in specific areas, schools specialize early instead of promoting mastery across a broad range of subjects. America has seen generations of students graduating from high school without a grasp of the full extent of history, without the ability to think critically and evaluate, and without excellent writing and speaking skills. Many have noted that our modern education tends to focus on specific fields of study, or "what to think" as opposed to scholarship, or "how to think".¹ Classical educators believe that excellence in every field is only achieved when people acquire broader scholarship in addition to field-specific skills. Classical educationalists desire to return to education as it was originally conceived, believing that a mastery of all of the subjects, developing the mind in critical thinking, and teaching eloquence is the best way to educate a human being.

In addition to content and form, Lutheran Christians know that education without God in Christ Jesus is futile and that: "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). A classical education at Memorial Lutheran School, then, is more than just a copy of how the ancient Greeks educated their children. At Memorial Lutheran School, we teach the classical liberal arts built upon the foundation of a biblical, Lutheran Christian worldview. This means that students are taught in every area of study how that subject is informed by Christianity, as taught in the Scriptures. Teaching with a Christian worldview does not mean that everything students read or learn is specifically "Christian", written or discovered by Christians, or reflects Christian ideas. It does mean that Scripture is the mirror by which truth, goodness, and beauty is evaluated. The truth of the Gospel of the salvation of Christ for sinners, won by Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead, is always the cornerstone while students gain increasing levels of knowledge and dive deeper into subjects. Goodness, or the virtues rooted in scripture, are upheld as worthy to attain, reflect, and emulate. Beauty, or the reflection of God's creation across multiple mediums and forms, seen in the arts, sciences, music, and literature, is taught. Teaching the liberal arts with a Christian worldview means that students learn to be discerning and to

¹ Martin Cothran, "What is Classical Education?" (Memoria Press, 2017).



evaluate both content and form. Students are taught how to be lifelong learners by developing the ability to seek knowledge, evaluate the knowledge they attain, and ultimately use that knowledge in the vocations they choose.

GRADING

GRADING

Grade point averages (GPA/GPNA) are computed on a semester basis. The office maintains a cumulative average. Class ranking is based upon the cumulative GPA and is posted after all graduation requirements have been completed. Only courses taken at Memorial Lutheran School count toward a student's GPA. Transfer students receive credit for previous courses, but the grades are not counted as part of the GPA for the purposes of class ranking. Courses taken at other institutions may count toward the prescribed graduation requirements. Students who transfer to MLS during sophomore, junior or senior year will not be given a cumulative GPA for the purpose of establishing class rank.

GRADING SCALE

	Numeric Value	Weight of regular classes	Weight of Honors classes
A	97 & Above	4.0	5.0
	93-96	3.8	4.8
	90-92	3.6	4.6
B	87-89	3.4	4.4
	83-86	3.2	4.2
	80-82	3.0	4.0
	77-79	2.8	3.8
C	73-76	2.6	3.6
	71-72	2.4	3.4
D	70	2.0	3.0
Fail	Below 70	0	0
	Incomplete	0	0



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate with a high school diploma from Memorial Lutheran School, a student will have completed the following coursework during a 4-year course of study:

SUBJECT	# OF CREDITS
<i>Studia Humanitatis (Core Humanities' Studies)</i>	
Theology I - IV 1 credit per year	4
Humane Letters I - IV Literature, English, Composition, Classical Studies	4
History I - IV U.S. government and economics in the Senior Year	4
Languages Credits must be at least 2 in the same language (Latin first year; Latin, Spanish or Greek after)	4
Logic	1
Rhetoric	1
<i>The Quadrivium (The Mathematical Arts)</i>	
Mathematics Must include 1 credit each in Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry	4
Science Must include 1 credit each in Biology, Chemistry and Physics	4
<i>Fine Arts</i>	
Music Education or Visual Art	1
Physical Education	
.5 credit earned per one semester in PE class or .5 credit for participating in two athletic seasons (up to 1.5 credits for 6 seasons); and Health	1



TOTAL	28 credits
--------------	-----------------------

A Sample Four-Year Plan

9th Grade		10th Grade		11th Grade		12th Grade	
Theology I		Theology II		Theology III		Theology IV	
Humane Letters I		Humane Letters II		Humane Letters III		Humane Letters IV (Capstone Essay)	
History I (Western Civilization I)		History II (Western Civilization II)		History III (American History)		History IV (US Gov't and Economics)	
Latin I		Latin II / Greek I / Spanish I		Latin III / Greek II / Spanish II		Latin IV (Readings) / Greek III / Spanish III	
Biology		Chemistry		Science Elective		Physics	
Algebra I OR Geometry		Geometry OR Algebra II		Algebra II OR Pre-Calculus		Pre-Calculus OR Calculus	
Fine Arts		Fine Arts		Fine Arts		Fine Arts	
PE	Health	Logic I	Logic II	Rhetoric		Elective	Elective

ACADEMIC CREDITS

Academic credits toward graduation are earned beginning with the freshmen year. For each course in which a grade of 70 or above is earned, the student is awarded ½ a credit per semester. Students are classified according to the number of credits they have completed:

- Freshmen less than 8
- Sophomore at least 8
- Junior at least 16
- Senior at least 24

ACCREDITATION AND AFFILIATIONS

Memorial Lutheran School is accredited by the Consortium for Classical Lutheran Education (CCLE). MLS is recognized by the Texas Education Association through the accreditation process of the Lutheran School Accreditation Commission of the Texas District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. MLS has also received National Lutheran School Accreditation. The most recent accreditation renewal was given in July 2020. MLS is a member of the Classical Latin School Association (CLSA).



CURRICULUM FOR THE UPPER SCHOOL

ACADEMICS

The academic coursework of Memorial Lutheran School can be divided into two subsets: the *Studia Humanitatis*, or the **Core Humanities Studies**, and the *Quadrivium*, or the **Mathematical Studies**. Together, these two subsets comprise all of the academic subjects. The Core Humanities Studies include theology, English, history, languages, logic and rhetoric. The Mathematical Studies include science and mathematics at all levels. As the sciences have progressed over time, additional advanced fields of science are now included within the *Quadrivium*, and so science at Memorial Lutheran School includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and accompanying lab courses, as well as opportunities for additional exploration and study.

In classical education, music has been included under the mathematical arts. Music education, as well, has developed beyond its original conceptualization, with the development of instrumentation, studies of musical time periods, composers, the role of music in the church and church history. Music education, then, and all that Memorial offers in courses and opportunities will be detailed separately in its own category.

STUDIA HUMANITATIS (THE CORE HUMANITIES STUDIES)

The *Studia Humanitatis* or “Studies of Humanity” form one of the main subsets of MLS’ coursework. Theology, Humane Letters, and History are taken each year to form a basis of what it truly means to be human. Students are taught who God is and who they are in relationship to him and to each other (theology). Students become part of the “Great Conversation” (the dialogue of past and present) as students engage with authors and ideas that bridge the common ideas and questions of what it means to be human. Formal instruction in logic and rhetoric equips students to think clearly, analyze arguments, and eloquently engage in the “Great Conversation”. Finally, students are taught to empathize with humanity’s past, present and future by studying history. The final portion of the *Studia Humanitatis* is in languages other than English. Latin was a hallmark of education in the liberal arts. The majority of MLS students take Latin throughout their upper school years. Spanish and classical Greek will also be offered.

THEOLOGY

The foundation of a classical Lutheran education is theology. The theology curriculum at Memorial Lutheran School is designed to catechize the baptized and those who will be baptized. Christians need to know how to give a defense for the faith that they have in Christ Jesus (1 Peter). Theological training equips students to better believe, confess and teach others who God is and what he does for us. Sixth grade completes the Lower School “Survey of the Bible”, studying the New Testament. Seventh and eighth grade students study the Small Catechism. For ninth through twelfth grade students, the two primary texts for theological



instruction are the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Book of Concord. By the completion of these upper school studies, students will have read the entire Old and New Testaments. In addition to the Bible, students will read the Apocrypha (the intertestamental books which were written between the time of the Old and New Testaments). Students will be conversant in the history of the Church and the Lutheran Confessions and be able to articulate the significance of the Catechisms, the Creeds and the historic Confessions of the Lutheran Church. Students will be trained in biblical interpretation and the tradition of Christian doctrine so that they can best converse with others in various denominational traditions. Theological instruction is not limited to the theology classroom, as the reading lists for both the Humane Letters and History classes will be intertwined and interconnected with what is taught in each year of Theology.

HUMANE LETTERS (ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION)

The goals of the Humane Letters (or English) coursework at Memorial Lutheran School are to train students to be knowledgeable in the great literary works by teaching appreciation and understanding of classic literature across different time periods; to teach excellence in writing; and through both of these to develop critical thinking skills. It has been said that in literature, a study of the individual in any given story leads one to better understand broader truths of human nature and character. In the classes devoted to the Humane Letters, students will conduct character studies of individuals about whom they read. They will do author studies, learn literary devices, become familiar with a range of literary genres, and learn how to write across a range of writing forms. Students will read what is often described as the "Great Books", or the body of literary works generally agreed upon as the greatest texts, because they have stood the test of time, model excellent examples of writing, and convey deep lessons of truth, goodness, and/or beauty. By the time a student graduates from Memorial Lutheran Upper School, he or she will know and be able to discuss the "Great Literary Works" and have been trained in excellent writing and thinking skills through these studies and practice. The final year of the Humane Letters will involve a capstone project. Analogous to the capstone (top, final stone) added to a building, the student's capstone project will be the final academic and intellectual achievement for the student.

HISTORY

The goals of the history coursework at Memorial Lutheran School are to attain both breadth and depth of key historical events from ancient to modern time periods, to understand how these events relate to one another across the same time periods, and in succession up to the present day. A classical approach to studying history requires students to learn both facts: dates, events, historical figures, and analysis of these events, in order to achieve mastery of historical information and the ability to take this information and apply it.

Sixth through eighth grade history students will study history through the use of narratives. Ninth through twelfth grade students will learn history using primary texts, or those written by historical figures themselves, as opposed to secondary texts, or textbooks, which are



summaries of historical events written through the perspective of another. In this way, students develop the ability to think critically on their own, to practice logical and analytical thinking, and to delve deep into historical causes and interrelationships. Students will practice eloquence and writing skills. Memorial Lutheran School graduates will have a grasp of the broad extent of historical events, an analytical understanding of the relevance of these events, training in critical thinking and writing about historical information, and the ability to continue a lifelong learning of history by knowing how to find and use primary texts.

LANGUAGES

Currently, students at Memorial Lutheran School take Latin as their secondary language. Many people today ask: "Why take Latin?" Classical educationalists believe training in Latin is extremely important as a language foundation. Latin is constructed according to a "building-block" approach, where Latin endings combine with Latin roots to form meaning in words and sentences. The skills gained when learning Latin grammar, and ultimately Latin translating, extend beyond language to logical thinking, synthesis and analysis. Out of Latin grew the Romance languages, or the languages that were spoken in areas once a part of the Roman Empire. Languages with a Latin origin include: Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian. Students of Latin gain an understanding of language that helps with any of these languages they may also choose to learn. Latin students become good spellers and increase their vocabulary. Finally, beyond the benefits of learning the grammar and vocabulary of Latin, students of Latin grow in scholarship. Theology and church history, literature, medicine, and science are replete with references, terms, and historical links to Latin. Learning Latin helps students become educated and well-rounded persons.

Students entering Memorial Lutheran School at the Upper School level will be placed into Latin according to their experience and attainment. All sixth through eighth grade students will take Latin at an appropriate skill level. Students who have not had Latin previously, or who need a good refresher course will begin in Latin I. Students who have previously had Latin will take an entry test to help determine placement.

Memorial Lutheran School will also offer classical Greek and Spanish to students interested in expanding their horizons beyond Latin studies. Such courses can be taken after the 9th grade year as they fit into each individual student's graduation plan.

LOGIC AND RHETORIC

Formal logic and rhetoric classes are a unique and necessary portion of a liberal arts education. Sixth through eighth grade students are introduced to Logic and Rhetoric through Speech and Debate and Logic classes. Ninth through twelfth grade students will study logic as regards the formulation and analysis of arguments and fallacious modes of argumentation. Formal rhetoric will be taught along the lines of Quintillian, Cicero, and Aristotle, to best prepare students for eloquence in their future vocations.



THE QUADRIVIUM (THE MATHEMATICAL ARTS)

The mathematics and sciences are the modern facets of the ancient *quadrivium*, the fourfold mathematical arts (arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music). The natural sciences and mathematics are essential in serving the neighbor in our current age.

SCIENCE

The goals of the science coursework at Memorial Lutheran School are to train students in the biological, chemical, and physical sciences, accompanying lab coursework, and in research methods. A classical approach to teaching the sciences includes not just the attainment of scientific knowledge. Rather, leaders in the sciences learn which questions to ask, how to use critical thinking in the world of science and discovery, and how to use logic and reasoning. Students learn to use the scientific method and evaluation of research. Importantly, students view scientific discovery as a way of learning about God's creation in the natural world. Classical educationalists believe that scientists today, more than ever need an understanding of God in science, and that developing our future scientists and physicians with a Christian worldview, including bioethics, is essential in our modern-day world. Students graduating from Memorial Lutheran School will have a solid grasp of the range of the physical sciences and lab procedures at the upper school level as well as a broader understanding of how to use logic and scholarship as part of the scientific process, and will be able to integrate ethics and a Christian worldview into scientific investigation.

MATHEMATICS

The goal of the math coursework at Memorial Lutheran School is to train students in a range of mathematical skills. Students master the complete set of mathematical subjects and have opportunities for advanced math coursework. Through mathematics courses, students develop analytical skills, logical reasoning, and problem solving, all skills that students apply to every subject area. Students gain the mathematical skills necessary to be successful in college courses of science, economics, and statistics. Upon graduating from Memorial Lutheran School, students will have mastered mathematics coursework in preparation for college math, whether basic or advanced.

THE FINE ARTS

MUSIC EDUCATION

Lutheran education has a rich history in teaching music to children. Martin Luther himself studied music as one of the liberal arts. Luther continued his study of music into his adult life, emphasizing its role in Christian worship. The Oxford Encyclopedia describes Luther's own music education:

"Luther's lifelong love of music was accompanied by an in-depth musical education. He knew secular and sacred songs from an early age, played the lute well, and sang in the convent when he was a monk, as a



husband and father with his family, and as a professor with his students. Music was an indispensable part of his life. He first began writing sacred songs in 1523, sometimes composing the melody as well. He also crafted a four-part motet... [Luther's] incorporation and promotion of music in the schoolroom resulted in a close relationship between church and school, as well as between classrooms and religious services. Pupils took part through chanting at services, and the evangelical hymns in the chantry were spread through the choir's chanting books."²

In a famous preface, written in 1538, Luther wrote:

"We can mention only one point (which experience confirms), namely, that next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. ... No greater commendation than this can be found — at least not by us. ... After all, the gift of language combined with the gift of song was only given to man to let him know that he should praise God with both word and music, namely, by proclaiming [the Word of God] through music."³

The goal of music education at Memorial Lutheran School is to train students in the full appreciation of music, not only for the sake of learning music repertoire, theory, and skills, but also to teach students the ways in which music history is part of church history, and the role that music plays in the divine service and in worship. Students at Memorial Lutheran School will gain knowledge in music history and music theory, and will have the opportunity to choose music education in choir, strings ensemble, band, or handbells. Importantly, students will have opportunity daily to sing and worship in chapel, to receive a rich music education in sacred music as well as the great works throughout music history, and to learn how their music education can be continued throughout their life to serve both God and neighbor.

MUSIC THEORY

All sixth through eighth grade students take music theory. Upon engaging in comprehensive review of material, students will encounter, learn, and master advanced aspects of duration (irregular meters and their note groupings), pitch (notation in Tenor clef, scales and key signatures up to and including six sharps/flats, inversions of primary chords and cadential progressions), and performance directions in Italian and German.

By independent study/small group arrangement, advanced music theory is offered as a coursework option. The student's musical-theoretical aptitude is formally assessed prior to the beginning of study, which approaches concepts of pitch, duration, and performances directions previously untreated, using the scope and sequence of the Associated Boards of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). Preparation will occur in view of formal assessment by the ABRSM, which serves as a course option for the student should he/she so desire.

² Johannes Shilling, "Martin Luther and the Arts: Music, Poetry, and Hymns," Oxford Research Encyclopedia. <https://oxfordre.com/religion/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.001.0001/acrefore-9780199340378-e-293>. Online publication date March, 2017.

³ Martin Luther, *Preface to Georg Rhau's Symphoniae lucundae*, (LW 53:323-324).



CHOIR

Students who would like to participate in choir have the opportunity to do so. Students learn the mechanics of proper ensemble singing as they rehearse and perform unison and polyphonic sacred and secular works of literature of various time periods and regions. Fundamental and advanced aspects of music theory and history are approached/reinforced. A basic ability to read music is required to be a member of the choir.

STRINGS ENSEMBLE/CHAMBER MUSIC

Students who play a stringed instrument (viola, violin, or cello) may have the opportunity to play in small group strings ensembles. Students will work on tone, intonation, technical skills, musicality, and develop ensemble playing skills. Students have the opportunity to play for chapel as well as special events such as Grandparents' Day, Advent Service, Winter Concert, and more. Students may also have the opportunity to learn chamber music, or music that will involve other students of music as well, including piano, brass, or wind instruments. Repertoire is drawn from baroque, classical, and romantic time periods. Students have the chance to learn beautiful hymn arrangements as well as other sacred music.

BAND

Students who play a brass, wind, or precision instrument have the opportunity to play in band. The band program at Memorial Lutheran School trains students in the technical and musical skills for any band instrument of their choosing, as well as skills needed to play as part of a group. Repertoire includes music across the ages, as well as hymns and sacred music. Students have the opportunity to play at chapel services as well as perform at concerts such as Grandparents' Day, Advent Service, Winter Concert, and more. Students may also have the opportunity to combine with strings students, in order to be exposed to and learn orchestral music.

HANDBELLS

Students who would like to participate in handbells have the opportunity to do so. Students learn how to ring bells and play in accord with one another. Music repertoire includes sacred music and hymns. A basic ability to read music is required to be a member of the handbell choir.

VISUAL ART

Upper School students take art classes up through the ninth grade with an option to continue after ninth grade if desired. These classes train students in visual art skills across a variety of mediums, including drawing, painting, water color, pastels, and sculpture. Students gain knowledge of art vocabulary an understanding of the elements and principles of design. A classical education approach to art also includes relating art mediums to art history. Students learn how to create art through imitation of the masters. They will consider the context in



which the art was created and employ fundamental skills of art in reproducing works like those they study. Students will have regular art lessons focusing on each of the elements and principles. Students will keep an art journal.

ATHLETICS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Classical education views physical fitness as a core component of a student's training. Physical fitness, team and individual sports teach discipline, hard work, ethics, teamwork, emotional control, humility, and perseverance. Learning rules of various team sports helps to develop executive function skills and teaches students to play honorably and as role models for their teammates and younger students. Memorial Lutheran School believes that training students in physical fitness and sports education sets students on a path of lifelong health and physical activity as well as enrichment.

Students may fulfill their physical education requirements a number of ways. Participation in sports or a general P.E. class may be used to gain credit. 9th grade students will have the opportunity to play junior varsity team sports in which 7th, 8th, and 9th graders will form teams. Team sports will be offered as interest allows, but may include: Girls: volleyball, basketball, track, or tennis; Boys: soccer, basketball, track, or tennis. Individual sports may also be taken and will fulfill P.E. credit. As with team sports, individual sports may include cross-country running, tennis, and/or archery. Individual sports will be determined by level of interest and in coordination with the Athletic Director.

*A sports physical and ethics policy is required before a student may participate in any sport.

HEALTH (NINTH GRADE)

The book of Genesis provides the basis for our understanding of Creation, its origins, its goodness, and its purpose. As the "head and crown" of Creation, mankind was given dominion over all the earth. We were created to serve God and glorify Him by ruling over and caring for the Creation. The practice of good health habits is a fulfillment of God's mandate to "subdue" the earth. This includes caring for our spiritual, physical, emotional, social, and environmental health.

Studying the anatomy and physiology of the human body will engender a greater appreciation for it. To understand its basis units, its systems, its functions and its growth development, is to comprehend the breadth and depth of God's wisdom as revealed in Creation. An informed appreciation of the human body is essential to maintaining your health, and therefore, it is helpful in fulfilling your duty as a steward of God's creation.



ELECTIVES AND INDEPENDENT STUDY

(NINTH THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE ONLY)

ELECTIVES

Students may elect to take additional courses as time and resources allow. A sampling of possible courses that would fall into this category include: Classical Greek; Spanish; Christian Bioethics; Speech and Debate; Science Research Methods; etc.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Students may elect to do a semester-long independent study during their senior year. Topics will be determined in coordination with faculty and/or the headmaster. Topics would be specialty areas of interest, such as: an iconic author study (Shakespeare, C.S. Lewis; Jane Austen); a scientific research project (a special-interest chemistry or biology investigation); a study of a key historical event (A Study of the Reformation; World War II; or The Fall of Constantinople and the Eastern Roman Empire).

CHAPEL

Chapel is an integral and important part of education at Memorial Lutheran School. Students participate in daily chapel. In the chapel service, which is held in the Memorial Lutheran Church sanctuary, students, faculty, and staff come together to hear the word of God preached each morning by one of the several pastors at Memorial Lutheran Church and School; sing a hymn of the week; recite the catechism and scripture lesson for the week; and sing the liturgy for the matins, or morning service that coincides with the church year calendar. The chapel calendar is available every fall highlighting the feasts and festivals celebrated at Memorial Lutheran Church and School.

LIBRARY

Upper School students in ninth through twelfth grade will have the privilege of using the library before school hours, beginning at 7:15 am. Students in 9th grade and older may be dropped off starting at 7:15, where they are allowed to read or study quietly in the library until school begins. Students may also use this time to visit with teachers and receive help. This time before school should not be used as formal tutoring time, but rather enrichment time for students to ask questions and talk with teachers about subjects. Formal tutoring that is needed on a regular basis may be arranged privately with faculty at times set between families and teachers.

The library offers a variety of reference materials, classic novels, fiction, and nonfiction books. 9th graders have access to all resources in the library. The school library is open after school as



well for Upper School students to read or study. Library hours will be posted at the beginning of the year.

UNIFORMS

Memorial Lutheran School purchases uniforms through Lands' End. Families will create an online account where they can view photos of various uniform required and optional pieces. Upper School students will have a chapel, or dress uniform and a daily uniform.

The uniform requirements for **sixth through eighth grade boys** are as follows -

- Full Dress -
 - White monogrammed button-oxford shirt with plaid tie, monogrammed navy sweater vest required (November through February)
 - Long khaki pants (no shorts), belts (black or brown) are optional.
 - White socks, crew or athletic
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoes (no colored logos)
- Daily Dress -
 - Navy or green monogrammed polo shirt (short or long sleeve)
 - Khaki shorts, khaki pants, belts (black or brown) are optional for kindergarten
 - White socks, crew or athletic
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoes (no colored logos)
- Outerwear -
 - Inside the building: monogrammed fleece, cardigan or vest; school-issued jackets or sweatshirts (no hoodies)
- Spirit Day -
 - MLS Spirit Shirt
 - Khaki pants or shorts; appropriate jeans: belts (black or brown), belts optional for Kindergarten
 - White socks, crew or athletic
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoes (no colored logos)

The uniform requirements for **sixth through eighth grade girls** are as follows -

- Full Dress -
 - White monogrammed blouse with appropriate navy tie; plaid monogrammed jumper and white blouse are also acceptable; navy monogrammed cardigan required November through February
 - Plaid Skirt or skort
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy tights (or ankle length leggings in winter)



- Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoe (no colored logos) OR black Mary Jane style shoe, black flat or oxford saddle shoe. Closed toes shoes only.
- Daily Dress -
 - Navy or green monogrammed polo shirt (short or long sleeved)
 - Plaid skirt or skort
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy tights (or ankle length leggings in winter)
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoe (no colored logos) OR black Mary Jane style shoe, black flat or oxford saddle shoe. Closed toes shoes only.
- Outwear –
 - Inside the building: Navy monogrammed fleece or cardigan; school-issued jackets or sweatshirts
- Spirit Day -
 - MLS Spirit Shirt
 - Uniform skirt or skort; appropriate jeans (no holes, tears, frays, or overly tight)
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy ankle length tights (or leggings in Winter)
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoe (no colored logos) OR black Mary Jane style shoe, black flat or oxford saddle shoe. Closed toes shoes only.

The uniform requirements for **ninth through twelfth grade girls** are as follows -

- Full Dress -
 - White monogrammed button-down Oxford or pinpoint blouse (long or short-sleeved); Evergreen monogrammed blazer
 - Plaid box pleat skirt only; cartwheel shorts required
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy tights (or ankle length leggings in winter)
 - Green/white saddle Oxford shoes. Available from Millswear at [https://www.millswear.com/product.jsp?sku=\\$406----&category=999](https://www.millswear.com/product.jsp?sku=$406----&category=999)
- Daily Dress -
 - White monogrammed blouse or white monogrammed polo shirt (short or long sleeve); navy monogrammed Ponte short-sleeve dress
 - Plaid box pleat skirt; navy Ponte pleat skirt; plaid box pleat skort; navy pleated skort; navy cartwheel shorts under skirts required
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy tights (or ankle length leggings in winter)
 - Green/white saddle Oxford shoes. Available from Millswear at [https://www.millswear.com/product.jsp?sku=\\$406----&category=999](https://www.millswear.com/product.jsp?sku=$406----&category=999)
- Outwear –



- Inside the building: Evergreen monogrammed fleece; evergreen monogrammed cardigan; school-issued jackets or sweatshirts
- Spirit Day -
 - MLS Spirit Shirt
 - Uniform skirt or skort; appropriate jeans (no holes, tears, frays, or overly tight)
 - White socks-ankle or higher; white or navy tights (or ankle length leggings in Winter)
 - Solid white or black, or black and white tennis shoe (no colored logos) OR black Mary Jane style shoe, black flat or oxford saddle shoe. Closed toes shoes only.

Check our website at <https://www.memoriallutheralschool.org/admissions/uniforms.cfm> for the complete listing and description of all uniforms pieces and requirements.

EVENTS AND ENRICHMENT

Memorial Lutheran School believes that the development of social skills and enrichment is an important part of any student's high school experience. Classical education is at its best when students are having fun learning and being together in wholesome, enriching activities.

SIXTH THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SWING AND BALLROOM DANCE

Requests by the students have been made for dance lessons! Upper School is the perfect time to learn dance etiquette and classic dance skills, as well as have fun together with good music. As Memorial Lutheran School's high school grows, ballroom and swing dance lessons will be part of what is in store.

"6TH – 8TH GRADE GET-AWAY"

At the start of Upper School classes, the sixth through eighth grade classes will attend a 2-day, overnight outdoor get-away with faculty. Students will learn what to expect in Upper School, including coursework and the goals of a classical high school education. They will have the chance to ask questions, exchange ideas, and learn about opportunities at Memorial Lutheran School. Students will make goals for themselves. Students and faculty can use this time to get to know one another and begin the year with worship and prayer in a beautiful, relaxed outdoor setting.

UPPER SCHOOL RETREAT

As the students progress through their upper school grades, outdoor time at a retreat will be a goal of Memorial Lutheran School. Outdoor education provides upper school students with time together and with faculty to learn, engage in physical challenges, study God's word together, worship together, have fun, and take a break from daily academic classes.



NINTH THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to the enrichment opportunities available to the sixth through eighth grade students (Swing and Ballroom Dance, Outdoor Get-Away, Upper School Retreat, the ninth through twelfth grade students will have additional opportunities -

MEN'S MEAL AND LADIES' LUNCHEON

At Memorial Lutheran School's monthly Men's Meal and Ladies' Luncheon, young men and women will come together with the headmaster (Men's Meal) or the Executive Assistant (Ladies' Luncheon) to engage in lively discussion on monthly classical topics, enjoy social time and a good meal together. Students will wear chapel dress and practice good etiquette and discussion skills.

YOUTH ROOM FRIDAY LUNCH BREAK

Upper School students on Fridays will have the opportunity to eat in the High School youth room, enjoying the sofas, pool and air hockey table, relaxed atmosphere, and social time together. Lunch on Fridays will combine the lunch and recess periods. Students may still elect to use this time for outdoor recess/sports time.