



**UPPER SCHOOL
COURSE CATALOG
2018 - 2019**

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ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This section is included in the Upper School Course Catalog to highlight the select academic policies and procedures of Trinity Christian School which are considered most helpful in the planning of a student's long-term academic career. This collection of select policy information is not a comprehensive list of all academic policies and procedures in effect at Trinity Christian School.

Classification of Students in Upper School:

- **Seventh Grade:** Have successfully completed coursework through sixth grade.
- **Eighth Grade:** Have successfully completed seventh grade or have transferred from an outside institution through seventh grade.
- **Freshman:** Students who have successfully completed seventh and eighth grade required courses or have transferred from an outside institution through eighth grade.
- **Sophomore:** Students who have successfully completed a minimum of 7 credit hours.
- **Junior:** Students who have successfully completed a minimum of 14 credit hours.
- **Senior:** Students who have successfully completed a minimum of 21 credit hours.

Once a student qualifies as a freshman, he/she is eligible to participate in all activities designated as freshman level and above, such as school dances.

Grade Point Average

The grade point average (GPA) is the average of the grade points earned for each class taken at TCS. Grade points are awarded only for **final** grades. Quarter and semester grades are never calculated into a student's cumulative GPA.

Grade point values are assigned according to the grading scale table on the next page. TCS implemented a new grading scale in the 2015-2016 school year. These changes were not retroactive. The grade points assigned for a class are then multiplied by the number of credits possible for that class. Semester classes are .5 credit, and year-long classes are 1 credit. The sum is divided by the cumulative credits attempted. Transfer credits are NOT included in the cumulative GPA.

The GPA is calculated according to the following formula:

Grade points earned **X** number of credits for the class / number of credits attempted = GPA

Grading Scale

TCS uses a modified 10-point grading scale and an Honors / AP weighting of 0.5 and 1.0 point respectively which started in the 2015-2016 school year.

Grading Scale <i>(Adopted in 2015-2016)</i>				
Letter	Range	GPA	Honors	AP
A	93- 100	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-92	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	87-89	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	83- 86	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	80-82	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	77-79	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	73-76	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	70-72	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	67-69	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	64-66	1.0	1.5	2.0
F	0-63	0.0	0.0	0.0

Honors / AP Courses

Students do not apply for Honors or AP classes. Placement in these classes will be done solely by teacher recommendation and principal approval. Students interested in taking these courses should discuss the matter with their parents and give careful consideration to what is required in taking on such a challenge. Bear in mind that enrollment in an AP course mandates sitting for the corresponding AP exam in that course.

Selecting the Honors or AP class on the *Course Request Form* will let the school know of a student's interest. Each student selecting these courses will have his/her records individually reviewed. Any student who selects an Honors or AP class without being recommended by a teacher and the principal will not be scheduled for that course. If a student did not select an Honors or AP course for which a teacher has recommended them, he/she *would not be* placed in the class. However, the principal may wish to speak with the student to inform him/her of the recommendation and possibly challenge him/her to consider enrolling in that course. Course Lists will be mailed to students in early May. Students who were not enrolled in a particular class that they requested on the Course Request Form may contact the Registrar's Office. The Registrar will review the student's academic record and respond to the inquiry. In the rare instance that an appeal is appropriate, the Registrar's Office will initiate an appeal on behalf of the student.

Credited and Non-Credited Courses

The Upper School has two different types of courses: **credited** and **non-credited**. A non-credited course is primarily designed for seventh and eighth-grade students. A credited course fulfills graduation requirements and is, therefore, more rigorous than a non-credited course. The final grade earned in a credited course is permanently recorded on the TCS transcript. This is true even

for seventh and eighth-grade students who take a credited course. Regardless of how a student performs in a credited class, the course and grade will remain on the student's TCS transcript. If a student chooses to retake a credited course, the previous grade will *remain* on the transcript, and the grade will be calculated into the final GPA.

Summer Assignments

Select Upper School courses require the completion of summer assignments before the start of school in the fall. New students enrolling later in the summer or just before the start of school will be given additional time to complete these assignments but are still expected to complete them. Summer assignments for the courses below are posted on the Parent Portal no later than the start of summer break.

- All required English courses
- All required Christian Studies courses
- All AP courses

Other Upper School courses have summer assignments that are *not* required but *strongly recommended*. If a course has recommendations, they will also be posted on the Parent Portal no later than the start of summer break.

Drop / Add

Students have two weeks after the first day of a course to drop a course without it appearing on the transcript. Any course dropped after this period will appear on the transcript as either a WP (withdraw passing) or a WF (withdraw failing). Students adding a course before the end of the first interim period are expected to make up all missed work.

Dual Enrollment

Students wishing to take dual credit courses (such as those offered by Northern Virginia Community College) must receive prior permission before enrolling. Students will only be allowed to enroll in courses that are not being offered at Trinity and are not required for graduation. Please keep in mind that depending upon the courses a student needs to take at Trinity, we cannot guarantee that a student's schedule will be flexible enough to accommodate outside coursework. **Please note that students taking four or more classes at Trinity are considered full-time students and will be charged full tuition for the year.**

Educational Internships

The educational internship program provides our advanced Upper School students (juniors and seniors) with the ability to learn valuable skills in the field of Christian school education. Students interested in education as a career will be partnered with a Lower School teacher who serves as a mentor over the course of a semester or for the full year.

Internships are also available in the Upper School for students who have demonstrated excellence in a particular subject area and are interested in studying it at the college level. Students accepted into the program will be assigned a specific class period in which to complete their internship. During this period, the student will assist the teacher in normal routines, observe lessons, and

ultimately have the opportunity to prepare and present lessons to students on a limited basis. This course is graded on a pass/fail basis, and the student will receive credit on his/her transcript. Space in this program is very limited, and the completion of a separate application is required. Interested students may obtain an application only after meeting with the Upper School Principal. Once the application is completed, it must be returned to the Upper School Principal for consideration and potential placement. The application for both fall and spring internships must be submitted for consideration before the end of the previous school year. No applications will be accepted after that time.

COURSE SELECTION

Course Selection Process

Course Request Forms are mailed to rising Upper School students in late January. Course Selection Night and grade-level seminar meetings are held to address issues related to choosing classes that fulfill graduation requirements, challenge and support student academics, and ensure Trinity's mission of educating students to the glory of God by pursuing excellence for mind and heart. Course Request Forms are collected in February. Course Lists are mailed to students in May. Any questions regarding placement may be directed to the Registrar. Students receive their schedules at Open House in August.

Enhanced Academic Schedule

In addition to our academic standard, college-preparatory classes, Trinity offers a variety of Honors and AP courses.

- **Honors Courses** generally cover the same material as their non-Honors counterparts, but topics are taught in greater depth and at a faster pace. They require more work with supplemental practice and close reading.
- **AP Courses** cover college-level material, utilize textbooks approved by the College Board, and may count for college credit. One AP course is the academic equivalent to one semester of a college course. Students should expect substantial reading and writing in an AP class. All students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam in May.

It is not necessary, nor is it recommended, that a student take every Honors or AP course offered. Students should consider Honors or AP courses in subjects that are of interest or in academic areas where the students have demonstrated proficiency. Because of their level of difficulty, Honors and AP courses have limited enrollment and require teacher recommendation and principal approval. Students with grades of 90 or above are generally considered for Honors and AP placement. If a student plans to take more than one Honors or AP course, it is recommended the student takes a study hall.

- Rising Freshmen and Sophomores wanting to enroll in *three or more* Honors and/or AP classes are pursuing an **Enhanced Academic Schedule**.
- Rising Juniors and Seniors wanting to enroll in *four or more* Honors and/or AP classes are pursuing an **Enhanced Academic Schedule**.

Homework Considerations

When selecting courses for the new school year, parents and students should take into consideration the amount of outside class work expected for each course, as well as time commitments for any extra-curricular activities, e.g., sports, church, music, jobs.

- **Trinity students in Grades 7 - 8** should expect approximately one and a half hours of homework each weeknight (5 days per week). **This number is based on the student not taking credited Upper School courses.** Credited Upper School courses are more rigorous than non-credited courses and may require more work.
- **Trinity students in Grades 9 - 12** should expect approximately two and a half hours of homework each weeknight (5 days per week). **This number is based on the student not taking Honors or AP classes.** Every Honors and AP class you take will require additional work outside of class.

Course Selection Tools

The ***Homework Planner*** shows the **average** amount of homework that a student can expect to have in a course in a given week. It represents an average, meaning that some weeks might have less and other weeks slightly more. The Planner also shows the average number of minutes per night a student can expect to spend on each subject, assuming that the student does homework **five** nights in a week. It is, of course, up to the individual student to determine how these times are allotted on a daily basis for maximum benefit. Individual students work and read at different rates. Students who have historically struggled in a particular subject may wish to factor in additional time for homework or tutoring.

- The ***Take Charge of your Schedule Worksheet*** is an optional tool for all students to use when submitting the Course Request Form. This worksheet is **REQUIRED** for those students requesting an **Enhanced Academic Schedule**.
- The ***Honors / AP Expectations Agreement*** is **REQUIRED** for students wishing to take an **Enhanced Academic Schedule**. The Agreement must be completed and submitted with the students' *Course Request Form* and *Take Charge of your Schedule Worksheet*.

TCS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for a student to participate in the commencement ceremony and earn a TCS diploma shall be those in effect when the student qualifies as a freshman for the first time.

Coursework Requirements

English	Social Studies ¹	Foreign Language	Fine Arts
4 credits	4 credits	3 years of one or 2 years of two	1 credit
Mathematics ³	Science ⁴	Christian Studies	Physical Education ⁵
4 credits	4 credits	1 credit for each year at Trinity	1 credit
Electives ² (3 credits)	Students will be required to complete two additional elective credits from either the list of general electives available at the end of the catalog or from any of the departments above, except Physical Education.		

1. World History 2 or AP European History, US History, and Government are required as three of these credits.
2. Arts & Aesthetics is required as one of these credits to be completed in the sophomore year by all students.
3. Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 are required as three of these credits.
4. Biology / Honors Biology and Chemistry / Honors Chemistry are required as two of these credits.
5. Health and Lifestyle Fitness are required as this credit to be completed in the freshman year by all students.

Community Service Requirements

40 hours for each year enrolled as a freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior at TCS. More than 40 hours earned in one year cannot be applied to subsequent years, but they may be applied to deficiencies from preceding years.

Thesis Requirements

Each senior is required to compose and orally defend a 15-20 page worldview thesis with a passing grade.

Chapel Requirements

.25 credit per year required by the number of years enrolled at TCS.

Student Seminar Requirements

.25 credit per year required by the number of years enrolled at TCS.

TCS PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS FOR SEVENTH GRADE STUDENTS

Coursework Requirements

SEVENTH GRADE STUDENT			
English¹	Social Studies	Foreign Language²	Fine Arts³
Literature / Composition Grammar / Composition	Introduction to US History		1 Semester
Mathematics⁴	Science	Christian Studies	Physical Education³
1 year	Life Science	Introduction to Old Testament	2 Semesters
Electives³ (2 Semesters)	Logic and Speech are required Electives		

1. Grammar / Composition may be exempted based upon prerequisites outlined in the Course Catalog.
2. Foreign language is an option for students who meet the prerequisites.
3. One semester of Fine Arts, two semesters of Physical Education, and Logic & Speech are required to be completed within the seventh and eighth grade. Most students elect to complete the Physical Education requirement in the seventh grade.
4. Placement is determined by the math department. Students placed in Algebra 1 or a higher-level math class may find it helpful to take Logic in the seventh grade.

Chapel Requirements

.25 credit per year required by number of years enrolled at TCS.

Student Seminar Requirements

.25 credit per year required by number of years enrolled at TCS.

TCS PROMOTION REQUIREMENTS FOR EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS

Coursework Requirements

EIGHTH GRADE STUDENT			
English	Social Studies	Foreign Language¹	Fine Arts²
Literature	Civics		1 Semester
Mathematics³	Science	Christian Studies	Physical Education²
1 year	Physical Science	Life of Christ	2 Semesters
Electives² (2 Semesters)	Logic and Speech are required Electives		

1. Foreign language is an option for students who meet the prerequisites.
2. One semester of Fine Arts, two semesters of Physical Education, and Logic & Speech are required to be completed within the seventh and eighth grade. Most students choose to take Logic & Speech in the eighth grade.
3. Placement is determined by the math department.

Chapel Requirements

.25 credit per year required by number of years enrolled at TCS.

Student Seminar Requirements

.25 credit per year required by number of years enrolled at TCS.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Please Note: Year-long credited courses earn 1 credit while semester courses earn .5 credit.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Old Testament Themes

This course is a thematic study of the Old Testament, tracing the biblical themes of Creation, the fall, redemption, and restoration as they pertain to the events of the Old Testament and the foretelling of the New Covenant instituted through Jesus Christ. Units regarding the Jewish feast days, Old Testament wisdom literature, the prophets, prayer, and biblical literary genres enhance students' understanding of the Old Testament and its relationship to the New Testament. An intentional emphasis is placed on the application of material to students' daily lives.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Life of Christ

This course seeks to extend students' knowledge of the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus Christ, as well as the work of the Holy Spirit through the disciples in the formation and expansion of the early church. Particular attention is given to the gospel of Luke and the book of Acts, with an emphasis on the application of biblical principles to students' daily lives. A foundational unit emphasizing the reliability of the biblical text reassures students of the inerrancy of the Scriptures as a whole with the gospels in particular.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Logic

In this one-semester course, students analyze arguments for validity through the study of formal logic. In addition to formal logic, students analyze common language in order to determine fallacious statements. We are called not to be held captive by false philosophies, and this course is an introduction of how to analyze the philosophies and arguments of the world while defending our beliefs. This is a rigorous course which requires students to think in a manner that may be new to them.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

Old Testament Survey (1 credit)

Old Testament Survey introduces students to the wide variety of Old Testament texts, demonstrating their shared theme of God's plan to redeem a people for himself, ultimately through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. Students sample the many genres and styles of the Old Testament canon, including narrative, poetry, proverbs, prophecy, and history. The course draws from background material to help students understand the scriptures, including information from archaeology and geography. Students become familiar with theological themes such as Creation, the Fall, covenant, faith, sovereignty, judgment, worship, Christ in the Old Testament, and the unity of the two Testaments. The main purpose of the course is for students to grow in

their love both for the Word of God and the God of the word as they “behold the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” (*II Cor. 4:6*)

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

New Testament Survey (1 credit)

The person and work of Jesus Christ and the teachings and ministries of his apostles, all as recorded in the New Testament, is the central focus of the year’s study. Building on the Old Testament knowledge and Bible study skills acquired during the freshman year, students gain greater competence and understanding in the interpretation of scripture. The life-changing implications and applications of the truth claims of Christ are explored.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Christian Doctrine (.5 credit)

A careful and systematic study of the essential doctrines of the Christian faith, rooted in scripture, and understood within the context of the historic teachings of the church. Special attention will be paid to creedal statements and doctrinal controversies at various stages in the life of the church. The course is specifically designed to help the student prepare for the *Weltanschauung* portion of the senior thesis.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.

Christian Ethics in Contemporary Culture (.5 credit)

This course is designed to assist students in developing a biblically-based approach to the most pressing moral and cultural challenges facing the church today. The course will begin by evaluating alternative ethical systems and formulating a truly Christian response, providing the student with a framework for making decisions about what is right and wrong. The course will then explore how Christians can and should engage with cultural trends and phenomena. The class will touch on such topics as relativism, postmodernism, objective moral values, abortion, religious pluralism, entertainment, social media, sexuality, and gender identity.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.

Apologetics (1 credit)

Apologetics introduces students to the breadth and depth of a biblical, Christian worldview and equips them to defend the truths of that worldview to others. The objectives of this capstone class include preparing students for college with an enriched knowledge of what biblical Christians believe, an improved ability to articulate a defensible rationale of these beliefs, and an enhanced appreciation for how these beliefs are best lived out through a life of truth, goodness, beauty, and love.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.

ENGLISH

Literature and Composition 1

Literature and Composition 1 aids students in the discovery of the power of words, both written and spoken, and helps them gain an understanding that language is a gift from God intended to communicate knowledge, wisdom, and truth. During this course, students continue to develop strategies which will facilitate their reading in a variety of genres, the focus being on fiction and short stories. Students begin to recognize the components of a biblical worldview and compare or contrast it with what a given author has written. Students continue to grow in their knowledge of literary terms. The major titles studied include the following: *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, *Johnny Tremain*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Hobbit*.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

Grammar and Composition

Grammar and Composition enables students to discover the effectiveness of correctly written and spoken words. Grammar concepts taught in sixth grade are expanded upon and refined. Students work more on their persuasive, descriptive, and narrative writing while expanding upon the foundation of expository writing. Students continue to build an understanding that language is a gift from God, intended to communicate knowledge, wisdom, and truth. In order to express their thoughts, ideas, and faith in both oral and written form, students work toward mastery of the structure and function of the English language through the study of Greek and Latin roots.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Seventh-grade students who meet set criteria may be exempt from taking this course.

Literature and Composition 2

Students deepen their understanding of language as a gift from God. They learn that as God used his words to create and destroy in the Bible, humans can use their words to create and destroy. In this light, students understand the power of rightly used words to communicate knowledge, wisdom, and truth. Students read a variety of genres. They continue to develop strategies that facilitate their understanding of the author's worldview. Additionally, each student learns how to express his/her thoughts, ideas, and faith most effectively in both oral and written form. Together, students work towards mastery of the syntax and structure of the English language. The major titles studied include the following: *The Giver*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Cry*, *The Beloved Country*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

Speech

Speech is a one-semester course designed to increase students' appreciation for the power of the spoken word, as they continue to build an understanding that language is a gift from God intended to communicate knowledge, wisdom, and truth. Throughout the course, each student listens, evaluates, and prepares a variety of oral presentations. Students also work toward

improving their listening skills and delivery techniques, including personal articulation and body language.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

Research, Writing & Rhetoric (1 credit)

This course is foundational in advanced research, writing, and rhetoric. Students are taught to apply critical thinking skills to literature and academic writing, building upon intermediate skills learned at the middle level in speech and logic. Attention is given to teaching students the theory and application of research and the proper use of sources in this digital age. Fiction and non-fiction texts challenge the students to analyze, argue, critique, synthesize, and create thoroughly written assignments that cement their mastery of the writing process. All literature is analyzed in light of God's biblical truth. The major titles studied include the following: *Mythology: Tales of Gods and Heroes*, *Oedipus Rex*, *Julius Caesar*, and *The Origin of Species*.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.

Honors Research, Writing, & Rhetoric (1 credit)

This honors-level course shares some objectives with the core offering, firmly establishing the students' understanding of advanced research and rhetoric. Students enrolled in this class are expected to perform at an advanced level in reading comprehension and analysis, and must possess strong executive function skills with an ability to process an increased workload. Students apply critical thinking skills to literature and academic writing with a depth of analysis and greater scope of material. Students are taught the theory and application of research and the proper use of sources in this digital age. Fiction and non-fiction texts challenge the students to analyze, argue, critique, synthesize, and create thoroughly written assignments that demonstrate their mastery of the writing process. All literature is analyzed in light of God's biblical truth. The major titles studied include the following: *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Odyssey*, *Julius Caesar*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *An Experiment in Criticism*. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

World Literature (1 credit)

This course analyzes world literature as a reflection of man's search for truth which is rooted in God. The truths found in human literature ultimately come from the one true author. By looking at the world through the eyes of various cultures and time periods, students identify universal questions and significant themes while learning how to scrutinize them in the light of God's truth. Students also learn to interpret literature by incorporating close reading and analysis into insightful arguments about the deeper themes revealed by these writings. They learn to write with clarity, purpose, insight, and accuracy through creative assignments, formal essays, and oral presentations. The major titles studied include the following: *Things Fall Apart*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Crime and Punishment*, and *Animal Farm*.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.

Honors World Literature (1 credit)

This honors-level course analyzes world literature as a reflection of man's search for truth which is rooted in God. The truths found in human literature ultimately come from the one true author. By looking at the world through the eyes of various cultures and time periods, students identify universal questions and significant themes while learning how to scrutinize them in the light of God's truth. In addition to studying the historical contexts of the works, students look at limited analyses of supplemental critical works and focus more heavily on the writer's craft. As this class is a step on the path to AP Literature senior year, most major assessments are writing-intensive. Students are expected to take ownership of basic writing elements and focus on elevating their style, as well as communicate complex ideas in their writing. This course receives honors credit. The major titles studied include the following: *Things Fall Apart*, *Macbeth*, *The Inferno*, and *Lord of the Flies*.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

American Literature (1 credit)

This course is designed to introduce juniors to literature from America. Students enrolled in this course are exposed to some of our nation's greatest writers from the 18th century to the 20th century and their works. They learn to analyze these works by style, structure, imagery, symbolism, diction, and syntax to strengthen their understanding of how authors use these techniques to express important concepts. Students learn to interpret literature by incorporating close reading and analysis into insightful arguments about the deeper themes addressed in the literature. Furthermore, students learn how to write critically about the themes explored in the texts. As students delve deeply into the words of man, they always keep in mind the Word of God. The major titles studied include the following: *The Crucible*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.

AP English Language & Composition (1 credit)

This AP course encourages students to analyze non-fiction texts and develop rational, evidence-based arguments and analysis. The course also applies the students' knowledge of formal college-level grammar and writing conventions. As the junior year is traditionally a study of the history of American literature, the structure of the course concentrates primarily on American authors. As Christians, the analysis focuses the light of truth on ideas and viewpoints. The major titles studied include the following: *The Scarlet Letter*, *Civil Disobedience*, *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, and *Fahrenheit 451*. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP English Language & Composition exam in May.**

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

British Literature (1 credit)

This course analyzes British literature as a reflection of man's search for truth which is rooted in God. Students explore selected poetry, drama, short fiction, and novels that represent the major periods in the British literary tradition from its earliest beginning to the modern era. By looking at the lives of key British authors, as well as the historical contexts and the philosophical and biblical allusions contained in their work, students will identify universal questions and significant themes while learning how to scrutinize them in the light of God's truth. Students also learn to interpret literature by incorporating close reading and analysis into insightful arguments about the deeper themes revealed by these writings. They also learn to write with clarity, purpose, insight, and accuracy through both creative assignments and essays. The major titles studied include the following: *Beowulf*, *1984*, *Hamlet*, *Frankenstein*, and *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week

AP English Literature & Composition (1 credit)

Designed for senior students who have shown an aptitude and a love for the written word, this college-level course will encourage students to analyze British literature as a means to discover the fundamental truths of the human condition as well as the transcendent truths of God's character. Students will be expected to read the class material insightfully and to participate actively in class discussion. Also, students will be expected to write frequently and articulately about novels, plays, and poetry, taking into account such aspects of literary criticism as genre, theme, symbol, figurative language, structure, character, and historical context. The major titles studied include the following: *Hamlet*, *Brave New World*, *Heart of Darkness*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Beowulf*. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP English Literature & Composition exam in May.**

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

SOCIAL STUDIES

Introduction to United States History

Students learn about and identify significant individuals and events in the history of America from the early heritage of the Americas to the present. Students also become aware of and learn geographic terminology and map skills. Students study and understand the history of America, and can then compare and contrast past themes with current issues.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Civics and Government

Students study various political systems with a particular emphasis on the Constitution, legal system, foreign policy, economics, and geography of the United States. Students develop and practice good citizenship as members of their communities with emphasis placed on Virginian history and politics. They explore what it means to be an active citizen in light of God's Word. Students learn the biblical foundations of government and develop a rudimentary ability to compare American government with other historical and contemporary governments.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

World History 1: Prehistory - 1400s (1 credit)

A general survey of the personalities, events, and civilizations of world history, this course covers the pre-literary age up to the Renaissance. Students learn to describe, compare, and contrast past civilizations and their accomplishments. Students gain an understanding of assumptions and presuppositions that frame our understanding of history. This class is also offered online during the summer.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

World History 2: 1400s - Present (1 credit)

A survey of modern world history, this course begins with the Renaissance and concludes with present affairs. Students are exposed to various dimensions of the story of world civilization, focusing primarily on western political, economic, religious, military, and social history. The course also includes a general introduction to Asian, African, and South American history.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

AP European History (1 credit)

This course includes a study of the political, diplomatic, military, intellectual, cultural, religious, social, and economic events that shaped the course of European history. Students develop an understanding of the major political events in modern European history, cultivate an ability to analyze and synthesize the material addressed, place these events in their proper chronological sequence, and evaluate the impact of significant decisions and actions from the High Middle Ages (c. 1350) through the first decade of the 21st century. To analyze this period critically, students examine statistical data to understand historical trends, interpret historical maps to synthesize major issues and their impact on subsequent events, and compare and contrast various literary and artistic expressions as well as periods of the past six centuries. This course

receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP European History exam in May.**

- Students can expect 4.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

United States History (1 credit)

Beginning with a brief introduction of pre-Columbian North America, the course continues through the colonial period and the founding of the Republic, concluding with a discussion of the global war on terror. Students examine the various dimensions of American history, focusing on political, economic, religious, military, and social issues. Extensive readings in primary documents and prominent secondary sources are used along with multimedia presentations to facilitate an analysis of larger and more complex issues concerning the nation's history and heritage.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

AP United States History (1 credit)

A survey of the history of the United States from the colonial period to the present, this course encourages students to develop the analytical skills necessary to think critically about the American historical experience. Course content includes the development of the United States regarding its varied human and natural resources; social, cultural, and intellectual progress; political and legal institutions; and the emergence of these institutions from various religious and political philosophies. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP United States History exam in May.**

- Students can expect 4.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

Political Theory and Government (1 credit)

This course is designed to help students develop their understanding of American government and political theory. Students study influential philosophical foundations for government, the United States Constitution, the history and structure of the federal government, political socialization, the development of public policy in American history, and the relationship of the American public to their government. Throughout their study in this course, students are challenged to evaluate the material in light of Christian doctrine, particularly doctrine about human nature and authority.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

AP United States Government and Politics (1 credit)

This course gives students a foundational understanding of how our federal government was designed and how its institutions have changed over time, shaping our public policies as a result. The objectives of the course seek to go beyond a simple understanding of the structure of government by challenging students to develop a critical understanding of the way policy is

formed and influenced by the American political system. Students evaluate what role they should play as engaged and committed Christians in carrying out our responsibilities as citizens. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty.

Enrolled students are required to take the AP United States Government and Politics exam in May.

- Students can expect 4.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

SCIENCE

Life Science

Life Science allows students to observe God's creativity, purposeful design, sovereignty, and love through the study of the environment, origins of life, cells, plants, animals, and the human body. Students learn about the vast array of organisms that God created and the myriad of processes and systems God put into place to yield the exciting and complex world in which we live. Throughout the year, students have ample opportunity to evaluate and discuss biblical truth and science. During the laboratory portion of the course, students continue to refine their science skills by conducting hands-on investigations and implementing the scientific method while learning to utilize lab equipment properly.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Physical Science

Physical Science begins with a study of the properties and the nature of matter. Students use the scientific method and inquiry-based laboratory exercises to understand better the complexity and purpose of the smallest particles that God has created while studying how these particles interact in forming the chemical bonds and reactions that we see occurring in the world around us. The course then builds on this foundation to examine the interaction between matter and energy. Students examine the impact that motion and forces have on matter, and in turn, how these forces produce the energy that we see and use on a daily basis. The course concludes with a study of magnetism and electricity that allows students to connect what we observe happening around us with a God who is in control of all things.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Biology (1 credit)

Students are offered an introduction to the nature of life in this survey of the biological sciences. This course provides an overview of broad biological concepts and stresses the unifying principles of science seen specifically in the life sciences. Major themes include ecology, biochemistry, cellular structure and function, genetics, evolution, plant function and physiology, human anatomy and physiology, and animal kingdom diversity. These themes are reinforced with experiments in the laboratory where students see these themes in action and engage in investigative skill using the scientific method. The class discusses issues involving Creation, evolution, and the ethical use of scientific advancements from a Christian worldview. Students gain a greater understanding of and appreciation for life, an ability to think critically about scientific issues, solid problem-solving skills, and the ability to apply biological concepts to current global issues.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

Honors Biology (1 credit)

In this honors-level survey course, students are offered a rigorous introduction to the nature of life. Students are introduced to broad biological concepts, stressing the unifying principles of science seen specifically in the life sciences. Major themes include ecology, biochemistry, cellular structure and function, genetics, evolution, plant function and physiology, human

anatomy and physiology, and animal kingdom diversity. These themes are reinforced with experiments in the laboratory where students have an opportunity to see these themes in action and engage in investigative skill using the scientific method. In addition to laboratory exercises, students learn to critically analyze concepts using graphical, conceptual, and mathematical models to draw conclusions. The class discusses Creation, evolution, and the ethical use of scientific advancements from a Christian worldview. Students gain a greater understanding and appreciation for life, an ability to think critically about scientific issues, solid problem-solving skills, and the ability to apply biological concepts to current global issues. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval. Students who have already taken Biology are **not** eligible to take this course.

Chemistry (1 credit)

Chemistry provides students with an understanding of the fundamental structure and properties of matter. The course begins with a review of the scientific method and laboratory skills with a focus on the skills necessary for future laboratories. Students learn the basics of chemistry and use the periodic table as an information tool. Then students explore bonding, kinetic theory, and the nature of matter in solution. Finally, students extend their knowledge to special areas in chemistry such as biochemistry, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Students conduct experiments to reinforce instruction and enhance understanding.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1-A

Honors Chemistry (1 credit)

This honors-level course provides students a detailed understanding of the fundamental structure and properties of matter along with the theoretical and practical interaction of such matter. The course begins with a review of the scientific method and laboratory skills with a focus on the skills necessary for future laboratories. Students learn the basics of chemistry, the use of the periodic table as an information tool, and the use of mathematical principles to predict and explain what happens when matter reacts or interacts with other matter or the environment. Students explore bonding, kinetic theory, and the nature of matter in solution. They extend their knowledge to special areas in chemistry including biochemistry, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Students conduct experiments to reinforce instruction and enhance understanding. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: A grade of a 90 or higher in Honors Algebra 1 or a grade of 95 or higher in Algebra 1 along with teacher recommendation and principal approval. Students who have already taken Chemistry are not eligible to take this course.

AP Chemistry (1 credit)

AP Chemistry is a rigorous, math-based course with a strong laboratory component. It is intended for students who have demonstrated a willingness to commit considerable time to the study of chemistry. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by

Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Chemistry exam in May.**

- Students can expect 4.5+ hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors Chemistry, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

Physics (1 credit)

Physics is a branch of science that involves the study of the physical world—energy, matter, and how they are related. Students investigate the motion of electrons and rockets, the energy in sound waves and electric circuits, and the structure of the proton and the universe. As these relationships are studied, students gain a clearer understanding of the wisdom and power of God and how He has created and sustains the world. The course begins with a study of mechanics and the relationship between force and motion. Students then study how energy and matter are related. As part of this study, students examine waves and light, along with their applications in electricity and lenses. The course concludes with a brief study of quantum theory and nuclear physics.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry and Algebra 2

AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based (1 credit)

AP Physics 1 covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum), work, energy, and power along with mechanical waves and sound. It also introduces electric circuits. This is a non-calculus-based course. No prior coursework in physics is necessary although the AP Physics 1 course does include the basic use of trigonometric functions. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty.

Enrolled students are required to take the AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based exam in May.

- Students can expect 5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based (1 credit)

AP Physics 2 is equivalent to a second-semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers fluid mechanics, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, optics, and atomic and nuclear physics. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based exam in May.**

- Students can expect 5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of AP Physics 1 or completion of Physics with a 94 or better, successful completion of or concurrent enrollment in Precalculus or higher, teacher recommendation, and principal approval.

AP Environmental Science (1 credit)

AP Environmental Science provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and manmade, to evaluate the relative risks

associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Environmental Science exam in May.**

- Students can expect 4 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

Anatomy and Physiology (1 credit)

Anatomy is designed to introduce the student to the structure and function of the human body, providing a basic foundation for further studies in anatomy and/or a general background to becoming an informed medical consumer. The student is presented with the human body's complexity of design that defies random chance and points to an intelligent, creative God. Eleven major body systems are covered by a cellular, tissue, and organ system perspective. Each body system is studied as a module with a laboratory experience to facilitate learning, including microscopic observation and dissection.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry.

Astronomy (1 credit, offered every other year)

Astronomy is a branch of physical science that studies the universe and the objects in it: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands." (*Psalms 19:1*) This course begins with an analysis of the scale of the universe. Students learn how our ancestors used the stars to navigate and how we can recognize constellations in the evening sky. Students explore the position, size, composition, and motion of stars, planets, nebulae, and galaxies. As students view the amazing images of God's handiwork, they learn how the telescopes of today use more of the electromagnetic spectrum to give a new view of the universe. The course concludes with a discussion of current cosmological theories and an analysis of their validity.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry and Algebra

Marine Biology (1 credit, offered every other)

This course provides a brief introduction and survey of the organisms, ecology, topography, and geology of salt and brackish water environments. It serves as an extension of the studies of life seen in Biology and emphasizes those concepts as seen in marine environments. Major themes include anatomy and physiology of marine organisms, structure and function of marine ecosystems, human interactions with these environments, and pollution. The course includes a mandatory field trip to Wallops Island in late fall. Students also develop their investigative skills using the scientific method, graphical models, and field experience as they apply to marine science.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology with an 80 or higher and teacher approval.
- Additional fee may apply for the overnight field trip.

Introduction to Civil and Mechanical Engineering (.5 credit)

This inquiry-based course introduces students to the fundamental principles and concepts at the heart of all engineering disciplines. The course begins with an introduction to the engineering profession that includes the engineering design process, engineering communications, and engineering ethics. Students learn how to apply fundamental physical, chemical, and material foundations to representative problems in civil and mechanical engineering. Students use computational engineering tools (Excel) and graphical communications to analyze and explain simple problems. Students also use computer design tools to plan and design their own bridge to meet specified load requirements. Laboratory and practical exercises support classroom instruction.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry
- Open to juniors and seniors with successful completion of Trigonometry recommended.

Introduction to Electrical Engineering (.5 credit)

This inquiry-based course introduces students to the fundamental principles and concepts at the heart of all engineering disciplines. The course begins with an introduction to the engineering profession which includes the engineering design process, engineering communications, and engineering ethics. Students learn how to apply fundamental physical, chemical, and material foundations to representative problems in electrical, power generation, and environmental engineering. Students use computational engineering tools and graphic communications to analyze and explain simple problems. Students are also introduced to engineering aspects of probability and statistics, and engineering economics. Laboratory and practical exercises support classroom instruction.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry
- Open to juniors and seniors with successful completion of Trigonometry recommended.

MATHEMATICS

Introduction to Pre-Algebra

Introduction to Pre-Algebra gives students a solid foundation for exploring and understanding algebraic and geometric concepts as they transition from Lower School to Upper School mathematics. Content areas include the number system and number theory, algebraic expressions and equations, geometry, statistics, probability, and introductory linear equations. Students are challenged to increase their processing skills in problem-solving, reasoning communication, connections, and real-world representations. Students gain a greater understanding of God's use of mathematics and learn more about who he is through the study of his creation.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement is determined by the math department.

Pre-Algebra

Students make connections between math and the real world, moving from concrete to abstract thinking. This is a rigorous course in which students learn to apply basic skills to more complicated problems. They build upon solving equations and study how to gather and display data. Basic concepts such as fractions, decimals, percents, and integers are reinforced through complex problems. Students are introduced to the orderliness of math and how God has created the world in an orderly fashion. They will see that God laid down the foundations of math from the first moment of Creation.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement is determined by the math department.

Algebra 1-A (1 credit)

Algebra 1-A is for students who have completed pre-algebra, but who are not ready for the rigors of an Algebra 1 course. After learning the basic tools needed for algebraic calculation, students learn to represent linear relationships in a variety of ways: verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. The course then builds to a discussion of various ways of manipulating and representing polynomials. Lessons in reviewing arithmetic and pre-algebra topics prepare students for a full algebra course. Applications involving calculator skills are used throughout the course. Special emphasis is placed on test preparation and study skills. Students are frequently reminded that all truth is authored by God, and they will understand Him in a greater way through the mathematical topics that are discussed.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement is determined by the math department.

Algebra 1 (1 credit)

This course introduces students to problem-solving using the language of algebra. Topics include the basic properties of real numbers, equations, and inequalities, systems of equations in two variables, polynomials, operations on rational expressions, simple functions, irrational numbers, and quadratic equations. The course develops a systematic approach to problem-solving by

teaching specific techniques, and by applying new concepts in algebra to real-world situations. Use of a graphing calculator is essential to provide both graphic and numeric examples.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement is determined by the math department.

Honors Algebra 1 (1 credit)

This honors-level Algebra 1 course extends students' knowledge and understanding of the real number system and its properties through the study of variables, expressions, equations, and inequalities while stressing the connection between arithmetic, algebra, and geometry. The depth and level of understanding expected in Honors Algebra 1 are beyond the scope of Algebra 1. Students are expected not only to master algebraic mechanics, but to understand the underlying concepts and apply them to real-world situations. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking, practical application, and development of a Christian worldview. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement is determined by the math department.

Geometry (1 credit)

Geometry follows Algebra I. Students develop reasoning and problem-solving skills as they study basic Euclidean geometry topics. Students learn and apply properties of points, lines, and planes, as well as planar figures including polygons and circles. Students use the concepts of length, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems. In addition to the geometry content of the course, there are numerous discussions of algebra, data analysis, and probability. The course is framed around the understanding that God has designed his universe with certain principles, and that we can understand our Creator in a deeper way by learning and applying those principles which he has built into the framework of his Creation. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. *This class is also offered online during the summer.*

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Algebra 1 with a grade of 74 or better.

Honors Geometry (1 credit)

Honors Geometry follows Honors Algebra 1. Students in this honors-level course develop high-level reasoning and problem-solving skills as they study Euclidean geometry topics. They learn and apply properties of points, lines, and planes as well as properties of planar figures, including polygons and circles. Students use the concepts of length, perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume to solve complex real-world problems. The honors class is distinguished by a thorough study of trigonometry, vectors, tessellations, and non-Euclidean geometry. The entire course is framed around the premise that God has designed his universe with certain properties built into the framework of Creation, and that we can understand our Creator in a deeper way by learning and applying those properties. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Honors Algebra 1 with a grade of 90 or better.

Algebra 2 (1 credit)

Algebra 2 emphasizes the mechanics of algebra with real-world applications and modeling through a thorough treatment of algebraic concepts. Topics studied include expanded concepts of algebra, systems of linear and nonlinear equations, multiple representations of functions, (linear, quadratic, and absolute value), complex numbers, higher degree functions, conic sections, and logarithms. Use of a graphing calculator is essential to provide both graphic and numeric examples. Particular attention is given to the development and articulation of a Christian worldview which draws together all knowledge into a coherent whole. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Algebra 1 with a grade of 74 or better.

Trigonometry (.5 credit; offered online during the summer)

Trigonometry explores the properties of triangles and circular functions. Students explore trigonometric definitions, applications, and graphing while solving trigonometric equations and inequalities. Applications and modeling are included throughout the course of study.

Trigonometry is vital for students who plan to take AP. Students enrolled in Trigonometry are assumed to have mastered the concepts covered in Algebra 2. The successful completion of this course may allow a student who has completed Algebra 2 to enter Honors Precalculus.

- Prerequisites: Students must complete Algebra 2 with a grade of 80 or better.

Honors Algebra 2 / Trigonometry (1 credit)

This honors-level Algebra 2 / Trigonometry class challenges students to achieve a depth and level of understanding beyond the scope of Algebra 2. Students are expected to master basic reasoning and quantitative skills and apply new concepts to solve real-world problems. This course focuses on analyzing, graphing, and modeling the major algebraic functions. Advanced algebraic techniques and methods are emphasized throughout the course. Additional topics include trigonometry with a variety of applications, sequences and series, probability, and statistics. The math learned in this course allows students to grow in their understanding of God through his attributes reflected in mathematics. Graphing calculators are integral to the course. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry with a grade of 84 or better.

Precalculus (1 credit)

This course provides a survey of functions through the study of polynomials, transformations, and rational functions along with logarithmic, exponential, and inverse functions. Topics also include continuity, maximum / minimum points and values, matrices, sequences and series, and probability. Trigonometry topics include circular functions, right triangle ratios, solving trigonometric equations, inverses, identities, the Laws of Sines and Cosines, graphing trigonometric functions, and applying trigonometric techniques to solving real-world problems. A transformational approach to graphing is used with families of related graphs. Numerical, graphical, and algebraic solutions are considered for all problems. Graphing utilities, especially

graphing calculators, are integral to the course. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Geometry and Algebra 2 with a grade of 84 or better.

Honors Precalculus (1 credit)

Honors Precalculus provides students with concepts and skills from algebra, trigonometry functions, and analytic geometry, all of which are essential for further study in mathematics. In this honors-level class, special emphasis is given to preparation for a comfortable transition to the study of calculus. Through a wide range of mathematical applications, students develop the quantitative reasoning and problem-solving skills that are necessary for advanced courses such as AP Calculus, Statistics, and Computer Science. The math learned in this course allows students to grow in their understanding of God through His attributes reflected in mathematics. Graphing calculators are used to enhance the students' understanding of realistic applications through modeling, and to aid in the investigation of functions. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Honors Algebra 2 / Trig with a grade of 84 or better.

Calculus (1 credit)

This course gives an overview of foundational calculus principles. Topics covered in the first semester of Calculus are functions, limits, derivatives and differential calculus with an emphasis on real-world problems. The second semester focuses on integral calculus with applications that include finding the area under a curve and the area enclosed by graphs of functions. While this course covers many of the same topics as AP Calculus, it is intended for the student who is mathematically prepared to learn calculus, but would benefit from a slower pace and less stressful environment.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Students must complete Precalculus with a grade of 90 or better.

AP Calculus AB (1 credit)

Mathematics is the language of Creation. This is a restatement of Galileo's well-known sentiment that "mathematics is the language of the universe," but recast from the distinctly Christian perspective that God is the creator and sustainer of all the natural order. When He created the heavens and the earth, the first fundamental particles were formed. When He said, "Let there be light," electromagnetic radiation burst forth becoming part of the fabric of Creation used in the description of the wave nature of light. Most importantly for our study of calculus, time came into being, and with it, motion. Students study differential and integral calculus and apply what is learned to solve a variety of practical problems. Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. Enrolled students are required to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May.

- Students can expect 4.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Honors Precalculus with an 84 or better or complete Precalculus with a 94 or better.

Statistics (1 credit)

This course introduces students to elementary concepts in probability and statistics such as measures of central tendency, expected value, regression, correlations, distributions, and hypotheses testing. Students are introduced to the tools used for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. A TI-84+ calculator is used extensively for this course.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must successfully complete Algebra 2.

AP Statistics (1 credit)

AP Statistics helps students develop the insights to think clearly about questions they encounter, to collect data related to those questions, to use the tools necessary to show what the data is saying, and to tell clearly what it all means. Students frequently work on projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real-world data. Computers and calculators are used to enhance learning. Four broad conceptual themes are covered:

- Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns
- Sampling and Experimentation: Planning a study
- Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability and simulation
- Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypothesis

Placement for new TCS students is determined by the math department. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Statistics exam in May.**

- Students can expect 3.5+ hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Students must complete Algebra 2 with a 90 or better.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

Students enrolled in Spanish 1 learn the vocabulary necessary for basic communication and conversation in Spanish. Grammar lessons focus on forming a solid knowledge of verb conjugations, gender agreement, pronouns, and other essential concepts. Students are introduced to Hispanic culture and traditions, along with discussions of how such cultural features influence the language. Students memorize Scripture and outreach phrases to assist in clearly communicating the Gospel.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Placement for seventh and eighth-grade students is determined by the foreign language department.

Spanish 2 (1 credit)

Students enrolled in Spanish 2 expand their vocabulary from Spanish 1 to foster basic communication and conversation in Spanish. Grammar lessons focus on forming a solid knowledge of verb conjugations, gender, agreement, pronouns, and other essential concepts. Students are exposed to Hispanic culture and traditions. Students are challenged to open their minds and hearts to those of other cultures, to be humbly willing to learn from them and to appreciate God's love for all people groups. Students learn how our faith is related to language acquisition, and commit to memorizing Scripture to clearly communicate the Gospel.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish 1 with a grade of 74 or better

Spanish 3 (1 credit)

Students further develop their Spanish vocabulary and grammar through readings and conversations in Spanish. Students focus on developing writing skills in a variety of formal and informal settings. Hispanic culture is studied to help students minister and witness more effectively.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish 1 and 2 with grades of 74 or better

Honors Spanish 4 (1 credit)

Honors Spanish 4 further refines the students' abilities in four key linguistic skill areas, (reading, writing, listening, and speaking,) using intensive grammar review, vocabulary development, readings, conversations, and writing. Students in this honors-level class become conversant with Spanish culture through readings by Hispanic authors, the study of the great art of the Spanish masters and lesser-known Latin American artists, and the analysis of common religious and philosophical motifs of Latin American countries. The students are challenged to use their Spanish to reach out to the global and local Hispanic communities. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Completion of Spanish 3 with a grade of 84 or better, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

French 1 (1 credit)

French 1 students learn basic grammar and vocabulary while practicing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through classroom activities, the textbook series, and the use of multi-media materials. They gain a foundational understanding of French and francophone culture by studying France and other francophone countries, history, and the arts.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Placement for seventh and eighth-grade students is determined by the foreign language department.

French 2 (1 credit)

Through the use of various classroom activities, the textbook series, and multi-media materials, students learn basic grammar and vocabulary and practice skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking the French language. The study of the language is augmented with discussions about the history and culture of France and other francophone countries. This study helps students develop brotherhood, kindness, respect, and hospitality within a biblical worldview.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Completion of French 1 with a grade of 74 or better

French 3 (1 credit)

French 3 provides students the opportunity to refine their skills and to enhance their grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students read, discuss, and interpret French readings from original texts, including prose and poetry. The students learn about the history and culture of France and other francophone countries. This study helps students develop brotherhood, kindness, respect, and hospitality within a biblical worldview.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Completion of French 1 & 2 with grades of 74 or better

AP French Language and Culture (1 credit)

This class includes a comprehensive overview of French grammar and vocabulary, the introduction of new vocabulary, and daily use of the language in written and spoken form. The coursework includes grammar reviews, novel reading, essay writing, and projects. Daily class activities include the review of films, songs, web-based news clips, and cultural exchange materials. Coursework includes AP exam practice exercises as well as test preparation tips. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty.

Enrolled students are required to take the AP French Language and Culture exam in May.

- Students can expect 4.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of French 3, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

Latin 1 (1 credit)

The ultimate goal of Latin instruction is learning to read Latin, and through it, to develop an appreciation and understanding of classical civilization and the influence that it still exerts in modern times. Students are introduced to Latin vocabulary, the basic forms of nouns and verbs, Latin-based English language derivatives, Latin expressions still in use today, stories of Roman

towns and provincial life, and Greco-Roman mythology. Students develop proficiency through a variety of means—written, spoken, dramatization, and discovery.

- Students can expect 2 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Placement for seventh and eighth-grade students is determined by the foreign language department.

Latin 2 (1 credit)

Latin 2 builds on the foundations laid in Latin 1. The course encompasses expanded Latin language instruction, more English derivatives of Latin, and additional everyday Latin expressions, as well as Roman emperors, the heroic myths, and Roman culture and geography. The setting shifts from Alexandria and its contributions to the ancient and modern worlds, then back to Britannia, exploring military and religious life. As students study the culture, they are asked to examine it in light of Christian belief.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Completion of Latin 1 or equivalent with a grade of 74 or better

Latin 3 (1 credit)

Latin 3 builds on the foundations laid in Latin 1 & 2. Students add to their Latin vocabulary, continue work with English derivatives of Latin, complete their acquisition of everyday Latin expressions, complete their acquisition of essential Latin grammar, and continue to develop their knowledge of Roman history and classical mythology. As the setting shifts to Rome, students examine its physical and architectural legacy, political life, marriage customs, and literary genres. Students transition to classical authors by studying selections from *Metamorphoses* by Ovid. As students study the culture, they examine it in light of Christian belief.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Completion of Latin 2 or equivalent with a grade of 74 or better

Honors Latin 4 (1 credit)

This honors-level course is the culminating Latin course at Trinity Christian School. As students read and translate the works of two native Roman writers: Julius Caesar and Vergil. Students consolidate Latin grammar, add Latin vocabulary, and incorporate the study of Roman history and political life, as well as work with English derivatives of Latin. In addition to Caesar and Vergil, students explore different Latin writers and literary genre. Students examine Roman culture in light of Christian teachings and principles. The course concludes with a capstone project incorporating knowledge of Latin, collaborative effort, and service to the community. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Completion of Latin 3 or equivalent with a grade of 74 or better

FINE ARTS: VISUAL ARTS

The Visual Arts electives listed in this section are linked in pairs—Painting & Drawing, Ceramics & Printmaking, and Introduction to 2-D Design & Introduction to 3-D Design. Linked classes are classes that are scheduled during the same period but opposite semesters. This means that students may take both of the linked courses in a pair or only one of the pair, but may not request one class from each linked pair. For example, a student cannot request Introduction to Painting in Semester 1 and Introduction to 2-D Design for Semester 2.

Introduction to Ceramics (offered every other year)

Throughout Introduction to Ceramics, students explore the concepts of mass, volume, form, and function as they relate to clay. By looking at the history of ceramics, students gain an understanding of cultural approaches to 3-D design concepts, surface decoration (glaze, drawing, painting), and the role of ceramics in daily life. Representational, abstract, non-representational, and functional ceramic work is created through basic clay construction methods (pinch, coil, and slab). Regular class critiques challenge students in their ability to see and assess art methods and materials, as well as study art's role in culture.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Introduction to Printmaking (offered every other year)

Introduction to Printmaking addresses a variety of processes and materials that have deep roots in art history. Students produce works that demonstrate an understanding of the printmaking process, including linoleum block, screen printing, monoprint, and collagraph. An understanding of color theory, design, composition, and drawing enhance their artwork. Regular class critiques and teacher demonstrations allow students to develop a deeper understanding of the processes.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Introduction to Drawing (semester-long class)

Every person has a God-given ability to observe and depict his/her surroundings. In Introduction to Drawing, students hone and develop this skill. Students build a foundation for advanced drawing classes and acquire the skills needed to succeed in Upper School art. The students explore line, shape, value, perspective, and illustration, along with various materials and processes of drawing.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Introduction to Painting (semester-long class)

Introduction to Painting presents ways to see and appreciate the colors and forms that God has given the world. Students build skills needed for Upper School painting courses by various practices, including studying color theory, understanding layering, and creating the illusion of depth. Students develop their knowledge of relevant vocabulary and concepts, including the elements of art and the principles of design. Peer critiques, class discussion, and individual conferences give students an understanding of art criticism. Class discussions are held about

creating artwork that is both honest about brokenness and hopeful about redemption. Students create portfolios that reflect their emerging individual styles.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Introduction to 2-D Design (offered every other year)

In Introduction to 2-D Design, students discover the importance of design and the Designer in every aspect of life. Students learn the principles of design while building a foundational knowledge for approaching design problems. Students create effective design compositions, address commercial design issues, and learn how to convey meaning through their art. Peer critiques, class discussion, and individual conferences give students an understanding of art criticism. The class discusses how to create artwork that is both honest about brokenness and hopeful about redemption. Students create portfolios that reflect their emerging individual styles.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Introduction to 3-D Design (offered every other year)

In Introduction to 3-D Design, students gain an appreciation of the dynamic, 3-D environment with which they interact every day. Students explore form, mass, and volume as they relate to the elements of art. Sculptural approaches to art-making include a review of the history of sculpture and how it informs our art-making choices. Class projects encourage students to use a variety of media to build meaningful pieces.

- Students can expect 30 minutes of homework per week.

Art Foundations (1 credit)

This Visual Arts Foundations course exposes students to knowledge of art as a means of communicating God's truth through the imprint of his image on humankind. Course content provides a strong foundation for exploration in a variety of art-making methods, materials, and processes in the visual arts. Knowledge of Drawing / Painting, 2-D Design, and 3-D Design is gained through class discussions and art-making challenges relating to the elements of art and principles of design, visual literacy, visual perception, art criticism, and masterworks in art history. An essential component of the Visual Arts program centers on an understanding of God as the Master Creator and how that understanding informs choices in art-making and judging works of art. Students engage in personal discovery of the joy and struggle in the making of art. Joy is discovered by seeing aspects of God's character come to light in their work, while the struggle is discovered in the process of developing their artistic voice.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Drawing & Painting (1 credit)

A traditional studio art environment allows students to explore and develop advanced drawing skills using various drawing media. Students use pencil, charcoal, pastel, watercolor, oil, and acrylic to produce artwork which demonstrates technical excellence, creativity, and personal voice on an advanced level. Through studying master artists in history as well as contemporary approaches, students create a portfolio as they develop their personal artistic style. Approaches

are both representational and abstract in style, identifying and developing thematic approaches to traditional art media.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Foundations

AP Studio Art: Drawing (1 credit)

Students in this course are challenged to make art that displays an advanced level of traditional art-making with an emphasis on mark-making and/or painting. A wide variety of media is encouraged and can be explored. Regular individual and class critiques address the three main goals of technical excellence, creativity, and personal voice on an advanced level. A self-driven, disciplined art-making practice is necessary for all students. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **All enrolled students are required to submit a minimum of 8 works to the Scholastic Art Awards in January and a minimum of 24 works (to be selected by the instructor) to the AP Studio Art Portfolio in May.** Completed summer work is required for entry into this class.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Drawing & Painting, teacher recommendation, and principal approval

2-D Design (1 credit)

Digital media is pervasive in today's culture. This course challenges students to produce meaningful work through their use of graphic design solutions. Class critiques provide a Christian context through which students judge all visual design. Projects are based on photography, traditional art methods, and digital applications, and apply an advanced understanding of design principles. The required text provides a solid framework for the student to understand and learn step-by-step instructions for a variety of graphic design solutions.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Art Foundations. A digital camera is strongly encouraged, but not required, for this course.

AP Studio Art: 2-D Design (1 credit)

Students are challenged to make art that addresses design problems through the inventive use and application of the principles of design. Traditional art methods, as well as photography, mixed media, and digital arts, are explored. Regular individual and class critiques address the three main goals of technical excellence, creativity, and personal voice on an advanced level. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **All enrolled students are required to submit a minimum of 8 works to the Scholastic Art Awards in January and a minimum of 24 works (to be selected by the instructor) to the AP Studio Art Portfolio in May.** Completed summer work is required for entry into the class.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of 2-D Design, teacher recommendation, and principal approval. Students who are interested in pursuing a photography portfolio should possess a digital camera.

3-D Design (1 credit)

Students are challenged to explore sculptural concepts of mass, volume, form, and function, as they address design issues in 3-D. By looking at the history of sculpture, ceramics, and architecture, students gain an understanding of cultural approaches to 3-D design concepts and use. A variety of materials are used to create representational, abstract, non-representational, and functional sculpture, including clay, wire, mixed media, and assemblages. Regular class critiques challenge students in their ability to see and assess art methods and materials, as well as their role in culture. Students also learn how to photograph their work for presentation.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Art Foundations

AP Studio Art: 3-D Design (1 credit)

Students are challenged to make art that addresses design problems through the inventive use and application of the principles of 3-D Design. Students employ art-making methods learned in 3-D Design, as well as research-based works. Regular individual and class critiques address the three main goals of technical excellence, creativity, and personal voice on an advanced level. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. All enrolled students are required to submit a minimum of 8 works to the Scholastic Art Awards in January and a minimum of 24 works to the AP Studio Art Portfolio in May. Completed summer work is required for entry into the class.

- Students can expect 3.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of 3-D Design and/or Art Foundations, teacher recommendation, and principal approval. Students who are interested in pursuing a 3-D Design portfolio may need to provide their tools and materials for art-making.

FINE ARTS: PERFORMING ARTS

Theater Arts 1 (.5 credit)

This survey course allows students the opportunity to experience and appreciate dramatic literature, become familiar with various theatrical styles and historical periods, understand the creative and cultural significance of theater, explore the interpretive methods and techniques used by theater artists, and participate in the creative process of performance and production. Participation in extracurricular after-school theater productions is preferred but is not required or guaranteed.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Theater Arts 2 (.5 credit)

This course expands upon concepts developed in Theater Arts 1. Students study and perform historical theater styles on an advanced level, practice writing, directing, and producing various types of repertoire, and apply technical aspects of theater in a hands-on setting. Acting skills introduced in Theater Arts 1 are expanded upon, refined, and applied to a variety of classical and original pieces. Participation in extracurricular after-school theater productions is preferred but is not required or guaranteed.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Theater Arts 1

Symphonic Band (1 credit)

This course instructs students how to play, what to play, and where to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. A commitment to personal growth with an emphasis on responsibility to the group is fostered. The director endeavors to facilitate the use of skills mastered for the edification of the body of Christ, service to the community, and the worship of God.

Opportunities for solo and ensemble performances are provided, and students play in styles that are both composed and improvised. Successful completion of this course should prepare the student for placement in Wind Ensemble.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the director.

Wind Ensemble (1 credit)

This course serves as a platform for Concert Band, Pep Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Jazz Band performances. Students continue to develop individual and group performance skills using various styles of band literature. Students are expected to practice at home approximately 150 minutes per week (30 minutes x 5 days). Performance opportunities include chapel services, a winter concert, a spring concert, an off-campus ministry performance, and a solo / ensemble festival. This course prepares the student to edify the church, enrich the culture, and worship God through music.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the director.

Honors Jazz Band (1 credit)

This course offers advanced band students who qualify an opportunity to practice and perform jazz literature, in addition to participating in the Wind Ensemble. Honors Jazz Band represents Trinity Christian School with performances on and off campus. Significant music preparation outside of class is expected in this group. In addition, all members must attend rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: One-year prior experience in Wind Ensemble. Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the band director.

Symphonic Orchestra (1 credit)

In this course, students learn to play their instruments individually and as an ensemble. The students learn about the basic elements of music and the historical background of composers and their works. Students are taught the proper technique of playing their instruments through scales and current repertoire. Performances include TCS chapels, concerts, off-campus ministry opportunities, and both solo and ensemble festival. The students perform as an offering of worship to God and as an act of service and witness to the community. Successful completion of this course prepares the student for placement in Philharmonic Orchestra.

- Students can expect 2.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the director.

Philharmonic Orchestra (1 credit)

The Philharmonic Orchestra program fosters musical excellence through the exploration of chamber, orchestral, and solo literature, exposing the students to the historical background of composers and their works. Students are trained in the skill of playing their instruments through scales and technical exercises, along with an advanced and varied body of repertoire. Performances include TCS chapels, concerts, off-campus ministry opportunities, and both solo and ensemble festival. The students perform as an offering of worship to God and as an act of service and witness to the community.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the director.

Honors Chamber Players (1 credit)

This course offers advanced strings students who qualify an opportunity to practice and perform chamber music in addition to participating in the Philharmonic Orchestra. Honors Chamber Players represents Trinity Christian School with performances on and off campus. Significant music preparation outside of class is expected in this group. In addition, all members must attend rehearsals every Tuesday and Thursday morning before school. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: One-year prior experience in Philharmonic Orchestra. Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the strings director.

Chorale (1 credit)

Chorale educates students in choral music through practice, performance, and listening. Students acknowledge God as the Creator of music and recognize his hand in inspiring compositions through the ages. The students learn to use their God-given gifts to the best of their abilities, thereby glorifying God. Objectives of the Chorus include demonstrating the proper singing technique, expanding vocal ranges, singing with correct diction and expression, and exploring music fundamentals, including sight singing and ear training. Students accomplish these objectives through the use of a progressive sight-singing curriculum and by studying a variety of intermediate unison, two-part, and three-part choral literature. Chorale performs during concerts and chapels at TCS. There is required attendance, i.e., graded attendance at approximately five after-school rehearsals per year.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Concert Choir (1 credit)

Concert Choir educates students in all aspects of choral music through practice, performance, and listening. Students acknowledge God as the Creator of music and recognize his hand in inspiring compositions through the ages. The students learn to use their God-given gifts to the best of their abilities, thereby glorifying God. Objectives of the Concert Choir include demonstrating the proper singing technique, working as a team to create a blended choral sound, singing with correct diction and musical expression, and exploring music fundamentals including sight singing and ear training. Students accomplish these objectives through the use of a progressive sight-singing curriculum and by studying a variety of intermediate to advanced SSA, SATB, and TTB choral literature. The Concert Choir performs during concerts and chapels at TCS. There is required attendance, i.e., graded attendance at approximately ten after-school rehearsals per year.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Placement will be determined by the Fine Arts department by an audition with the director. No prior choral experience is required.

Honors Choral Ensemble (1 credit)

Honors Choral Ensemble expands upon basic choral skills students have acquired in Concert Choir. Students in this select choral group perform advanced repertoire and master their sight-singing skills. The students participate in Concert Choir during the school day and Honors Choral Ensemble rehearsals before school every Tuesday and Thursday morning. Members of this group are expected to spend time outside of class learning and memorizing their music. This group performs on and off campus. There is required attendance, i.e., graded attendance at approximately ten to twelve after-school rehearsals per year. This course receives honors credit.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: A minimum of one-year prior choral experience. Placement will be determined by the Performing Arts Department by an audition with the director.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Team Sports

In this one-semester course, the tactics of play and decision-making skills are emphasized, alongside motor skill competencies. These universal strategies allow the student to participate as an individual and within a team environment. The class focuses on a variety of team sports, including football, basketball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, pillo polo (hockey), and invasion games. Throughout the semester, students are challenged to play with good sportsmanship and integrity.

Wellness

Through this one-semester course, students learn the importance of maintaining a physically active lifestyle. They experience a variety of individual and dual sports. The class also introduces students to relevant health information to help them make better choices in their daily lives.

Health (.5 credit, required for all freshmen)

Students explore four different areas of health: spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational. They learn about whole-body wellness and its impacts on individual and life application. The student is challenged to see the benefits of having all four aspects of health balanced and well-maintained.

This class is also offered online during the summer.

Lifestyle Fitness (.5 credit, required for all freshmen)

In Lifestyle Fitness, a variety of team and individual sports are explored along with an in-depth study of applying a healthy lifestyle. Sports that are typically played well into adulthood will be the emphasis of this one-semester course. This class continues to emphasize the tactics of play and decision-making skills that support the motor proficiencies of many team games. Individual and cooperative exercises help the students gain an appreciation for both health and physical fitness and begin to apply personal fitness planning concepts to their individualized plans. *This class is also offered as an on-campus intensive during the summer.*

Weight Training (.5 credit)

A well-rounded fitness regimen places emphasis on strength training, cardiovascular conditioning, flexibility, and balance. This one-semester Weight Training class helps students maintain a balance in the four aspects of health: physical, emotional, social, and most importantly, spiritual. Scripture teaches that physical fitness is valuable and that God is concerned with how we use our bodies. This class serves as an introduction to the weight room, a safe environment in which the students can improve their fitness levels.

- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Health and Lifestyle Fitness

GENERAL ELECTIVES

These courses do not fulfill graduation requirements for any specific department but may be applied toward fulfillment of the elective graduation requirement.

Arts & Aesthetics (1 credit, required for all sophomores or new-to-Trinity juniors)

This course presents a critical introduction to aesthetic theory. Students address such questions as “What is art? What is beauty? How do artistic ventures differ from and approximate other human endeavors? What commerce has art with theology? Is there a proper ‘use’ for art? What is the relationship between art and morality? What criteria, if any, are there for distinguishing good art from bad art? Is there such a thing as ‘Christian’ art?” This class is also offered as an on-campus intensive during the summer.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.

AP Computer Science Principles (1 credit)

Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles introduces students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. Students have the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Computer Science Principles exam in May as well as complete the mid-year AP Computer Science Principles project.**

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 with a grade of 90 or better

AP Computer Science A (1 credit)

Advanced Placement Computer Science A introduces students to problem-solving and algorithm development. By learning the basics of the high-level Java language, students begin to design and test programs to find effective and efficient solutions. This course receives advanced placement credit. It is a college-level class taught by Trinity faculty. **Enrolled students are required to take the AP Computer Science A exam in May.**

- Students can expect 3 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Open to juniors and seniors with teacher recommendation and principal approval

Yearbook (1 credit)

Designed to teach students the fundamentals of print journalism, the final result of this course is the production of Trinity Christian School’s yearbook. Led by student editors, the class works together to develop the theme, a ladder, and structure to meet the deadlines determined by financial and publishing considerations. Students are introduced to photography, interviewing, journalistic writing, and layout design. Each student produces complete spreads for the yearbook using Adobe InDesign. They also learn to evaluate their own work and that of their classmates for

accuracy, clarity, and integrity. By working together, the staff communicates the story of the year and the vision and purpose of Trinity Christian School to the glory of God.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.

Advanced Yearbook Journalism (1 credit)

This course explores advanced journalistic digital photography and design within the context of the publication of the yearbook. While working with fellow staffers to conceptualize and complete spreads, students hone their photography skills through training in advanced composition and technique, as well as deepen their understanding of journalistic design through an exploration of the basic principles of design with an emphasis on grid and layout, typography, and color. This course meets during the regular yearbook class period. Independent study and summer work is expected.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: One year in Yearbook and teacher approval

Introduction to Constitutional Law (.5 credit)

This course is designed for students interested in law, government, and politics. It examines a wide range of contemporary issues subject to constitutional interpretation, the role of the courts, and the legal limitations on governmental policymaking. The course focuses on the powers granted to each of the three branches of government, separation of powers, the commerce clause, and the division of authority between the states and federal government as well as focusing on several key individual rights including free speech, freedom of religion, bearing arms, affirmative action, and due process. Students develop skills that enable them to read and interpret Supreme Court decisions.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only

Introduction to Microeconomics (.5 credit)

Students engage in the study of how individuals and nations make choices regarding the use of scarce resources to fulfill perceived needs. An overview of the American capitalistic system regarding biblical principles and political theory and their application to consumer and business spheres is presented. Personal finance will also be addressed in this course.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only

Introduction to Philosophy (.5 credit)

This survey course evaluates the dominant philosophers and philosophical movements influencing our culture and affecting our Christian mission. Major issues and questions of philosophy are addressed, examining the various positions and answers, and articulating a distinctively Christian philosophy. Topics include free will and determinism, consciousness, theories of knowledge, and time and space.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: Open to all juniors and seniors; underclassmen who feel comfortable reading advanced material may enroll with instructor permission.

Creative Writing (.5 credit)

As part of God's creation, we have been given the ability to experience God's handiwork in the world around us. The art of creative writing is one of many mediums in which we use what God has given us to become better creations of God. Students participate in writer response groups, research and read published authors, keep and regularly write in a writer's notebook / journal, and experiment with and revise writing in all genres.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Research, Writing & Rhetoric / Honors Research, Writing & Rhetoric

From Print to Film (.5 credit, offered every other year)

This course allows students to experience and analyze the different mediums of storytelling represented by literature and film. The students revisit and read a variety of literary forms to analyze the components of literature and its methods of expression. Students then evaluate how those components occur, alter, and differ in a film adaptation. They will also learn the basic elements of filmmaking and its unique techniques. Ultimately, students will critically review and analyze a film and the effectiveness with which it conveys the primary work's themes and message.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: World Literature / Honors World Literature and Arts & Aesthetics

Shakespeare's Modes (.5 credit, offered every other year)

Students read and re-read only to discover and re-discover themselves in light of Shakespeare's unrivaled characters. Covering each of the three modes—history, comedy, tragedy—students also read most of the sonnets, write a critical essay on one of the plays, and perform a rather lengthy recitation, whether monologue or dialogue, with another student. The tentative reading list includes *Henry IV, Part 1*, *As You Like It*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, and *King Lear*.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisites: World Literature / Honors World Literature and Arts & Aesthetics

Foundations in Writing (.5 credit)

Writing is the best way to illustrate true mastery of a concept, and it is a common element in Upper School and college classes. This course provides extra support and practice in two areas: grammar and writing. Mastery of basic grammar is one of the building blocks of clear, competent, and compelling writing. The course teaches and reinforces proper grammar structures and how to incorporate them into academic writing. The course also reviews the primary components of academic writing, essay structure, incorporating support, and research skills.

- Students can expect 1 hour of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to eighth and ninth grade students

Origins & Anomalies (.5 credit)

This elective course surveys the early chapters of Genesis, selected ancient cosmologies, and theories of origin as well as anomalous artifacts and writings. Covering the underlying assumptions of dating methodologies, this class presents students with a biblical basis for evaluating the presuppositions of conflicting views of conventional history and alternative

archaeology. Discussion regarding the limitations of empiricism and naturalism in contrast to the supernaturalism of the Bible is developed throughout the course. Students are encouraged to view reality as God describes it and to allow the biblical revelation to interpret their experience and measure their understanding, rather than the other way around.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only

Personal Finance and Business (.5 credit)

The goal of Personal Finance is to help students to become financially responsible, conscientious members of society. This course gives students the tools and resources to make wise financial decisions in the future. In addition to personal finance, units on business essentials and business tools are covered. Students should leave the class understanding the basic structure and function of business, the necessities of personal finance, and how to use software to increase efficiency and productivity. Students participate in a final project to practice what they have learned. This class is also offered as an on-campus intensive during the summer.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only

Psychology (.5 credit)

This course provides a brief semester-long survey of the discipline of psychology. Students will be introduced to, analyze, and critique the historical development of psychology as a discipline. Students will be equipped to form a distinctly Christian response to issues in contemporary psychology.

- Students can expect 1.5 hours of homework per week.
- Prerequisite: Open to juniors and seniors only

Educational Internship (.5 credit)

The educational internship program provides juniors and seniors the ability to learn valuable skills in the field of Christian education. Students assist the teacher in normal routines, observe lessons, and ultimately have the opportunity to prepare and present limited lessons to students. Internships may be scheduled for one semester or the entire year. Applications for both fall and spring internships are required and must be submitted before the end of the previous academic year.

- Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation and principal approval

Executive Function Study Hall (1 credit)

The Executive Function (EF) Study Hall is designed to develop the essential skills needed to be successful in Trinity's rigorous academic program. Skills targeted through this program include planning, organization, time management, self-advocacy, task initiation, note-taking, and motivation. Students work with an Executive Function Coach to target their areas of academic weakness and set measurable goals for growth in these areas. Students learn and implement a variety of strategies in any given area until competency is reached. While students are placed in a

1:6 setting (one coach for every six students), instruction and support are individualized to cater to the needs of each student. This course is graded on a pass / fail basis.

- Additional fee required.

Advanced Executive Function Study Hall

The Advanced Executive Function Study Hall functions as a transition from our Executive Function Study Hall to a traditional self-directed study hall but with intentional EF support. Students will continue to learn and fine-tune study tools and approaches for managing executive function challenges and will continue to implement Active Learning Strategies. Advanced EF students will meet with their AEF Coach for one full block each week and attend a traditional study hall on other scheduled days. The AEF Coach will also be available during the scheduled traditional study hall block to provide additional support if needed. AEF Coaches will continue to advocate for their students with teachers, work with parents to implement success strategies, and will assist with the coordination of outside tutoring. As with a traditional study hall, the Advanced Executive Function Study Hall is not a credited class and thus will not appear on a student's transcript.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Executive Function Study Hall and principal approval.
- Additional fee required.

ESOL (1 credit)

The English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program is designed to develop a student's academic and social language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. After taking an English proficiency test, eligible students are placed in a leveled program designed to meet their individual learning needs. Student support includes language instruction as well as content support in all academic areas. This course is graded on a pass / fail basis.

- Prerequisites: Self-identified as an English Language Learner and placed at a proficiency level according to the WIDA Model language screener.
- Additional fee required.

NILD (1 credit)

NILD exists to enable students in Grades 2-12 with learning struggles to become successful and independent learners in the classroom and to realize their God-given abilities. These students have average to superior intelligence but often struggle in the regular classroom setting because of one or more difficulties in perception, cognition, processing speed, working memory, fluency, or academic skills. NILD supplements the education that is taking place in the classroom but is non-tutorial in that it focuses on strengthening the underlying cognitive weaknesses that cause difficulty in the learning process. These individual one-on-one sessions are graded on a pass / fail basis.

- Prerequisites: Identified Learning Disability with testing of Woodcock-Johnson III, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children IV.
- Additional fee required.

APPENDIX

GRADES 7 - 8 HOMEWORK PLANNER (5 Nights per Week)

ENGLISH

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Lit. & Comp. 1	1.5	18
Grammar & Comp 1	1.5	18
Lit. & Comp. 2	1.5	18

CHRISTIAN STUDIES*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Old Testament Themes	1	12
Life of Christ	1	12

*Memory verses are due each week.

SCIENCE*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Life Science	1	12
Physical Science	1	12

*An Element IRS is due in the fall: Expect 5 hours of extra work.
*A PowerPoint presentation on renewable energy is due in the spring: Expect 1 hour of extra work.

HISTORY

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Intro. to US History	1	12
Civics and Gov't.	1.5	18

MATH*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Intro to Pre-Alg.	1.5	18
Pre-Algebra	1.5	18
Algebra 1	2	24
Honors Algebra 1	2	24
Geometry	2	24
Honors Geometry	2.5	30

*Homework includes practice problems and studying for tests and quizzes.

REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Speech	1.5	18
Logic	1.5	18
Visual Arts Elective	.5	6
Performing Arts Elective*	1 or 2.5	12 or 30
P.E.	0	0
Seminar	0	0
Chapel	0	0

*Chorus and Theater require 12 minutes of practice: 5 nights per week.
*Band and Strings require 30 minutes of practice: 5 nights per week.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: FRENCH, LATIN, OR SPANISH

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Level 1	2	24
Level 2	2.5	30

GRADES 9 - 12 HOMEWORK PLANNER

(5 Nights per Week)

ENGLISH*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Research, Writing & Rhetoric	2	24
Honors R.W. & Rh.	3	36
World Literature 10	2	24
Honors World Lit.	3	36
American Literature	2.5	30
AP Language	3.5	42
British Lit 12	2.5	30
AP Literature	3.5	42

*Expect all classes to focus heavily on reading.

*Expect Honors and AP courses to focus heavily on close reading & written assignments.

*Homework includes written assignments, reading, studying, and presentation preparation.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Old Testament	1	12
New Testament	1	12
Christian Doctrine / Christian Ethics	2	24
Apologetics	3.5	42

*Memory verses are due each week.

*The Senior Thesis will require additional time in preparation and writing.

SCIENCE*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Biology	1.5	18
Honors Biology	2.5	30
Chemistry	2	24
Honors Chemistry	2.5	30
AP Chemistry	4.5+	54
Physics	2	24
AP Physics 1	5	60
AP Physics 2	5	60
Civil / Mechanical Engineering	2	24
Electrical Engineering	2	24
Anatomy & Physiology	2	24
Astronomy	1	12
Marine Biology	1.5	18
APES	4	48

***Chemistry & Honors Chemistry** students have periodic lab reports & one IRS per semester that add to homework prior to the due date.

***AP Chemistry** could require 6 hours of homework per week, depending on the skill of the student.

***Engineering** students have an individual drafting project and a group-level IRS that require additional work.

HISTORY

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
World History 1	1.5	18
World History 2	1.5	18
AP Euro	4.5	54
US History	1.5	18
AP US History	4.5	54
Government	1.5	18
AP Government	4.5	54

MATH*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Algebra 1A	2	24
Algebra 1	2	24
HRS Algebra 1	2	24
Geometry	2	24
Honors Geometry	2.5	30
Algebra 2	2	24
Honors Algebra 2 / Trigonometry	2.5	30
Pre-calculus	2	24
Honors Pre-Calculus	2.5	30
Calculus	2.5	30
AP Calculus	4.5	54
Statistics	2	24
AP Statistics	3.5+	42

*Homework includes practice problems and studying for tests and quizzes.

***AP Stats:** Homework includes review of videos & note-taking, studying for assessments, and completing classwork when necessary.

***AP Comp Science:** Homework includes assignments, studying for assessments and large projects in February – April.

REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Lifestyle Fitness & Health	0	0
Arts & Aesthetics	1.5	18
Seminar	0	0
Chapel	0	0

FOREIGN LANGUAGE: FRENCH, LATIN, OR SPANISH

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Level 1	2	25
Level 2	2.5	30
Level 3	3	35
AP French	4.5	54
Honors Latin 4	3.5	42
Honors Spanish 4	3.5	42

ELECTIVES

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Foundations in Writing	1	12
Creative Writing	1.5	18
From Print to Film	1.5	18
Shakespeare	1.5	18
Origins	1.5	18
Intro to Philosophy	1	12
Intro to Constitutional Law	1.5	18
Intro to Microeconomics	1.5	18
Yearbook	1	12
Personal Finance	1.5	18
Psychology	1.5	18
AP Computer Science Principles	3	36
AP Computer Science A	3	36

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES*

Course	Hours Per Week	Minutes Per Night
Trinity Chorale	1	12
Honors Choral Ensemble	1	12
Wind Ensemble	3	36
Honors Jazz Band	3	36
Philharmonic Orchestra	3	36
Honors Chamber Players	3	36
Theater Arts 1 & 2	1	12
Art Foundations	1	12
Drawing & Painting	1	12
2-D Design	1	12
3-D Design	1	12
AP Art	3.5	42

*A student who is involved in a church or community ensemble can count those hours as practice time, as long as 20% of their practice time is spent on TCS music.

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR SCHEDULE WORKSHEET

This worksheet is an optional tool for all students to use when submitting the Course Request Form. This worksheet is **REQUIRED** for those students requesting an enhanced academic schedule.

STUDENT NAME: _____ **GRADE:** _____

TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR SCHEDULE means having a plan.

- Are you fulfilling your academic requirements?
- Are you choosing classes that will challenge you without overwhelming you?
- What do you do during your homework hours: 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.?
- Are there enough hours in your day to be successful AND happy?

MY REQUESTED COURSES

Subject	Course / Club	Average Homework Nightly
Christian Studies		
Math		
English		
Science		
Social Studies		
Foreign Language		
Study Hall / Elective		
Elective		
Seminar		
	Homework Total:	

MY EVENINGS: 4:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Activity	Average Time Spent
Ride Home from School	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total:	
Extracurricular <i>(Sports or Fine Arts Practice)</i>	
Job Commitment	
Youth Group / Church Activities	
Community Service	
My Time <i>(reading / TV / relaxing / exercise)</i>	
Total Time Per Night:	

MY ACTIVITIES

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Community Service	Community Service

MONDAY

Activity	Time Spent
Ride Home	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total	
Total Hours:	

TUESDAY

Activity	Time Spent
Ride Home	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total	
Total Hours:	

WEDNESDAY

Activity	Time Spent
Ride Home	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total	
Total Hours:	

THURSDAY

Activity	Time Spent
Ride Home	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total	
Total Hours:	

FRIDAY

Activity	Time Spent
Ride Home	
Dinner with my Family	
Homework Total	
Total Hours:	

HONORS / AP EXPECTATIONS AGREEMENT

STUDENT NAME: _____

You are requesting to take an enhanced academic schedule this year:

3 or more Honors / AP courses (Freshmen and Sophomores)

4 or more Honors / AP courses (Juniors and Seniors)

Taking Honors and AP courses are a collaborative effort between you the student, your parent / guardian, and Trinity. Each party plays a role and must commit to meet the expectations noted below.

The Student agrees to organize his/her time and effort to successfully complete the Honors and/or AP courses in which he/she is enrolled. The student will notify teachers immediately if he/she falls behind in class readings and/or assignments. The student will be expected to complete assignments, readings, and projects outside of class time. The student will take the AP Exam on its scheduled date and time as outlined by the College Board.

The Parent / Guardian agrees to be familiar with and accepts the Honors and/ or AP course requirements and policies and to help their child organize study time in support of class assignments.

The Trinity Christian School agrees to provide rigorous instruction and challenging course content as described in the Honors syllabi and/or AP Course Descriptions.

The Student is responsible for collecting the required signatures and returning the completed *Agreement*, *Take Charge of Your Schedule Worksheet*, and *Course Request Form* to the Registrar.

HONORS COURSES	AP COURSES	MY HONORS / AP REQUESTS
Honors Biology Grade 9	AP European History Grade 10	
Honors Res, Write & Rhetoric Grade 9	AP Language Grade 11	
Honors Chemistry Grade 10	AP US History Grade 11	
Honors World Literature Grade 10	AP Literature Grade 12	
Honors Algebra 1	AP Government Grade 12	
Honors Geometry	AP Physics 1	
Honors Algebra 2/Trig	AP Physics 2	
Honors Precalculus	AP Chemistry	
Honors Spanish 4	APES	
Honors Latin 4	AP Statistics	
Honors Jazz Band	AP Calculus	
Honors Choral Ensemble	AP French Language	
Honors Chamber Players	AP Studio Art	
	AP Computer Science Principles	
	AP Computer Science A	

Student Signature

Date

Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

US Principal Signature

Date

GRADUATION WORKSHEET

The Graduation Worksheet is provided to students as a tool and may be helpful when selecting courses and tracking progress toward a TCS diploma. The student transcript as recorded in the Office of the Registrar is the controlling authority on the fulfillment of requirements.

Name: _____ Anticipated Graduation: _____

ENGLISH (4 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Research/Writing/Rhetoric <i>or</i> Honors		
World Lit. <i>or</i> Hon. World Lit.		
American Lit <i>or</i> AP Eng. Lang.		
British Lit. <i>or</i> AP English Lit.		
SCIENCE (4 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Biology <i>or</i> Hon. Biology		
Chemistry <i>or</i> Hon. Chemistry		
FOREIGN LANGUAGE (3 credits in one or 2 credits each in two)	Final Grade	Year
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (1 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Health / Lifestyle Fitness		
CHAPEL	Final Grade	Year
Grade 9		
Grade 10		
Grade 11		
Grade 12		
COMMUNITY SERVICE (40 hours per year enrolled at TCS)	Total Hours	Year
Grade 9		
Grade 10		
Grade 11		
Grade 12		
Total Hours Earned		

HISTORY (4 credits)	Final Grade	Year
World History 1		
World History 2 <i>or</i> AP Euro. History		
US History <i>or</i> AP US History		
Political Theory / Govt. <i>or</i> AP US Govt.		
MATHEMATICS (4 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Algebra 1 <i>or</i> Hon. Algebra 1		
Geometry <i>or</i> Hon. Geometry		
Algebra 2 <i>or</i> Hon. Alg. 2 / Trig		
CHRISTIAN STUDIES (4 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Old Testament Survey		
New Testament Survey		
Christian Doctrine / Christian Ethics		
Apologetics		
FINE ARTS (1 credits)	Final Grade	Year
STUDENT SEMINAR	Final Grade	Year
Grade 9		
Grade 10		
Grade 11		
Grade 12		
ELECTIVES (3 credits)	Final Grade	Year
Arts & Aesthetics		