

199-118-001

HCA
Grades 9-12
Course
Guide
2026-2027



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HCA Secondary Course Guide

High School Course Offerings

Bible

Old Testament (required for all 9th grade students) Full Year Course

9th Grade Bible is a general survey of the Old Testament. It is a class designed to provide freshmen with a foundational understanding of the Old Testament story—its plot, themes, and characters. Focus will be given on God's interaction with his people and how the Old Testament sets the stage for Jesus and the redemption of the world. This course is also designed to give basic information on each book in the Old Testament, how to interpret it within its genre, and how it fits within the Old Testament and all of Scripture.

New Testament (required for all 10th grade students) Full Year Course

New Testament Survey will cover the Interbiblical period and the Gospels, then use the Book of Acts as the historical backdrop to take students through the Epistles and Revelation, helping them to better understand the historical context of each book. In their study of the growth and development of the early Christian Church and spread of the gospel, the students will: Gain a general knowledge of the Interbiblical Period, with particular emphasis on those events and institutions that had an effect on the New Testament era; Examine in detail the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, the land in which He lived, His teachings, and His death and resurrection; Be reminded of the basic message of the Church—"Jesus is the Christ"—which we understand and confess by grace through faith; Draw practical applications from the teachings of the New Testament for their personal, family, and social life; Enable the student to develop a biblical foundation for life and for Christian Service.

Theology and Worldviews (required for all 11th grade students) Full Year Course

Theology & Worldviews is a study of the Christian faith alongside major worldviews influential in the Western world today. Building upon the biblical survey classes, this course will establish the core of what it means to be a Christian, focusing first on the essential theological beliefs of orthodox Christianity and the main tenets of a Christian worldview. The second half of the course will be an analysis of five major worldviews and how they compare and contrast to Christianity. At the end of this course, students will have encountered not only the truth of the Christian faith, but its superiority to other worldviews vying for their affections.

Apologetics (required for all 12th grade students) 1 Semester Course

The goal of this class is not aimed at criticizing or attacking other belief systems but to challenge the students to test Christianity's truth claims, to stimulate them to intellectually think through the questions that they will be challenged with in college, and equip them to effectively defend the truths of Christianity. Like Paul, in Acts 17, they will be challenged to base their defense of Christianity on historical evidence, philosophical arguments, and now, scientific investigation to show the reliability, authenticity, and authority of the Bible.

Christian Ethics and Decision Making (required for all 12th grade students) 1 Semester Course

This course is the in-depth analysis of moral behavior and contemporary cultural issues guided and informed by a biblical and theological worldview. Students will build on the foundations of Scripture, theology, and philosophy by careful study of key concepts and presuppositions underlying each particular cultural issue. Emphasis will be placed on how Christians navigate these topics through a careful balance of grace and truth, modeling the virtues of justice, mercy, and humility. Each student is expected to exercise critical thinking skills designed to promote a Christ-honoring approach to issues that can be challenging and complex.

Vocational Ministry (elective option for 9th - 12th grade) 1 Semester Course

This one-semester Bible elective level explores God's heart for the nations and provides a global perspective for what God is doing in the world. In this class, students will learn biblical, historical, theological, and practical aspects of ministry in today's world. Emphasis will be placed on opportunities for engagement, preparing students to love people well with the hope of leading them to Christ. At the end of the course, students will leave with a greater boldness to share the gospel and a deeper love for the nations.

English Language Arts

English I (9th grade) Full Year Course

This course is designed to lay the foundation for all other literature courses. Class focus will be on developing language skills in the following areas: reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting. This course includes studies of various literary genres: novels, short stories, poems, drama and non-fiction. Students will also review MLA format, grammar, and vocabulary in order to develop beneficial writing habits. Students in this class are taught to analyze and write about literary elements and techniques used by authors to prepare them for further English courses.

English I Honors (9th grade) Full Year Course

This course includes the description in English I and, in addition, students in the Honors level are taught to analyze and write about literary elements and techniques used by authors, read more works than on-level English, and are prepared for upper level Honors courses. Honors students must be committed to reading outside class in order to engage and contribute to in-class discussions and Socratic Seminars. Students enrolled in this class should have the desire to work, read, write, and think at an accelerated pace and be able to manage their time wisely.

English II (10th grade) (Prerequisite: English I) Full Year Course

Students will discuss, analyze, and write about literary elements and techniques used by authors in order to develop analytical and critical thinking skills. Class focus will be on developing language skills in the following areas: reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting. Students will also review MLA format, grammar, and vocabulary in order to develop beneficial writing habits in the context of literature and writing. Course study will include a variety of genres while spending a majority of the time within British and World literature. Composition in many styles is a major component of this course including research and argumentative writing and responding to nonfiction articles.

English II Honors (10th grade) (Prerequisite: English I) Full Year Course

This course includes the description in English II and, in addition, students in the Honors level are prepared for upper level Honors courses. Honors students must be committed to reading more works than on-level English, reading outside of class in order to engage and contribute to in-class discussions and Socratic Seminars. Students enrolled in this class should have the desire to work, read, write, and think at an accelerated pace and be able to manage their time wisely.

English III (11th grade) (Prerequisite: English II) Full Year Course

In this course, students will analyze all readings through a Biblical worldview. Students will fervently engage in reading and writing a variety of genres, making them aware of the interactions among a writer's purpose, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness. Daily, the primary focuses will be reading, writing, and speaking. The reading conducted will reflect that of American literature.

English III Honors (11th grade) (Prerequisite: English II) Full Year Course

The English III honor students will deeply study American literature and engage in analytic and persuasive writing to consider the complex connections between a writer's purpose, audience expectations, and complex themes. They will study a variety of literary genres as well as analyze how the conventions of language intricately contribute to literature and purpose. They will also deepen their understanding of grammatical and literary techniques as well as an application of SAT vocabulary.

English IV (12th grade) (Prerequisite: English III) Full Year Course

The English IV Literature and Composition course is designed to reflect a recognized standard for college-level academic work. The course will specifically continue to develop and refine communication skills and engage students in careful reading and critical analysis of literature that is of recognized literary merit. Through close reading of selected British texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for readers.

English IV Dual Credit (12th grade) Full Year Course (Fall and Spring college semesters)

Students must meet college requirements and have high school administration approval. These courses will be fee based.

Fall Semester English 1301 (Composition I) (3 hours of college credit/one-half high school credit)

The intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis. Lab required.

Spring Semester English 1302 (Composition II) (3 hours of college credit/one-half high school credit)

The intensive study of and practice in the process of argumentation, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis on effective rhetorical appeals, including logos, pathos, and ethos. Students will have opportunities to effectively debate and compose personal arguments towards a variety of topics. Lab required.

English Language Arts Electives

Speech Dual Credit (11th or 12th grade) 1 Semester Course (depending on number of students who register, this will be either a regular face to face class or with fewer students an online class)

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval.

A study of basic communication principles, with emphasis placed on public speaking. Topics include classical origins of communication, communication theory, speech development and organization, use of visual aids, and strategies for informative, persuasive, and special occasion speeches. Students have multiple speaking opportunities in class. 3 hours college credit/one-half high school credit. This course will be fee based.

Debate (9th - 12th grades) 1 Semester Course

Study and preparation in the Lincoln-Douglas style debates. Students are prepared for debate competitions.

Film as Literature (9th - 12th grade offering)

Full Year Course

What makes a movie a great movie? We will watch classic and popular movies in order to discuss and analyze details like sound, music, visuals, and character development. Different genres (comedy, thriller, sports, mystery, etc.) will be explored, and creative activities will follow.

Creative Writing (9th - 12th grade offering)

Full Year Course

This course will be exploring different genres of writing, through both reading and writing. Through thinking and discussing, you will hopefully become a better reader, writer, and thinker. Some of the genres covered will be journal writing, memoir, poetry, mystery stories, fairy tales, journalism and newspaper pieces, to name a few. The class will also focus on helping you become a better technical writer, as well as a creative one.

Persuasive Communication (9th - 12th grade offering)

Full Year Course

"In It to Win It" - This course will be exploring the art of argument through writing, discussion, and debate—ending with an exciting mock trial where you'll put your skills to the test. In the second semester, you'll shift your focus to persuasive and advertisement writing, creating your own product pitch that will lead up to a Shark Tank-style presentation. In Persuasive Communication, you'll learn how to build strong arguments, think critically, and present your ideas with confidence.

Mathematics

Algebra I Full Year Course

Creates the foundation of Algebra including topics of solving equations and inequalities, introduction to functions, graphing, and operations with polynomials and introduction to exponents and radicals.

Geometry (Prerequisite: Algebra I) Full Year Course

Teaches the basic geometry concepts including parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, polygons, similarity, right triangles, circles, area and volume. Proofs are taught minimally.

Geometry Honors (Prerequisite: Algebra I) Full Year Course

Teaches the same concepts as Geometry but with a concentration on proofs and more complex problems.

Algebra II (Prerequisite: Geometry) Full Year Course

Builds upon Algebra I foundation and explores more in-depth functions and their inverses, graphing, and systems of equations. This course incorporates word problems for real world application

Algebra II Honors (Prerequisite: Geometry) Full Year Course

This course involves the same content as Algebra II, but with more complex problems and emphasis on critical thinking.

Advanced Algebra Concepts (Prerequisite: Algebra II) Full Year Course

Expands Algebra II Concepts. Topics include linear equations, inequalities, graphs, matrices, polynomials, radical expressions, quadratic equations, functions, exponential, logarithmic expressions, sequences, series, probability and trigonometry.

Advanced Algebra Concepts (Prerequisite: Algebra II) One Semester Course (Fall Only)

Expands Algebra II Concepts. Topics include linear equations, inequalities, graphs, matrices, polynomials, radical expressions, quadratic equations, functions, exponential, logarithmic expressions, sequences, series, probability and trigonometry.

Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Advanced Algebra Concepts or Pre-Calculus) One Semester Course (offered Spring Semester only)

This course's main objective is to help students become better critical thinkers by engaging them as active learners of the quantitative methods of analysis. Identify, analyze, and solve real-world problems that involve quantitative information. Reason quantitatively and make numerical arguments Interpret and communicate the results of quantitative analyses Use technology and Internet resources effectively and build skills in working with data. Develop and improve "numerical intuition" and confidence in the ability to engage in quantitative thinking.

Introduction to Calculus (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus) One Semester Course (offered Spring Semester only) This course reinforces Pre-calculus skills and provides a more in-depth study of functions, introduces concepts and applications of differential calculus to students who plan to study calculus in college. The course focuses on polynomial functions, rational functions, logarithmic functions, exponential functions, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions, composite and inverse functions, graphing, limits and continuity.

Math Dual Credit

Pre-Calculus OnRamps Dual Credit (11th grade) (Prerequisite: Algebra II) (fee based course)

Full Year Course University of Texas

This course is a rigorous, advanced math course aligned with entry-level courses taught at the college level. Students deepen and extend their knowledge of functions, graphs, and equations from their high school algebra and geometry courses so they can successfully work with the concepts in a rigorous precalculus course. This is an exploration-based mathematics course designed for students who plan to take future advanced math courses. Pre-Calculus is taught via OnRamps, which provides a dual credit option through the University of Texas for interested students. This course includes a fee for the dual credit portion of the course.

College Algebra Dual Credit (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Algebra II) 1 Semester Course

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval. Fall Semester only. A study of linear and quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, and linear inequalities with emphasis on business applications. 3 hours college credit/ one-half high school credit (online only) This course will be fee based.

Statistics Dual Credit (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Algebra II) 1 Semester Course

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval. Fall Semester only. An introductory treatment of research statistics. Included are frequency distribution, graphic representation, correlation, sampling theory, probability, and statistical hypotheses. 3 hrs college credit/ one-half high school credit. (online only) This course will be fee based.

Science

Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) (8th grade) Full Year

Covers the following topics: motion, waves, energy transformations, properties of matter, changes in matter and basic principles of chemistry. This course is designed for students currently in Algebra 1.

Biology (9th grade) Full Year Course

An overview of the atomic and molecular properties and laws which govern the vastness of God's living creation.

Chemistry (10th grade) Full Year Course

An overview of characteristics and processes which allow for life within God's creation.

Chemistry Honors (10th grade) Full Year Course

An in-depth overview of the atomic and molecular properties and laws which govern the vastness of God's creation.

Physics (11th or 12th grade) (Prerequisite: Biology or Chemistry) (Corequisite: Algebra II or higher math) Full Year Course

Physics is the study of matter and energy; in particular, it is the study of how the motion of particles and energy shape our universe. The focus in this class is on a qualitative understanding of physical principles, with the utilization of basic mathematics to support this goal.

Physics Honors (11th grade) (Prerequisite: Biology or Chemistry) (Corequisite: Algebra II or higher math) Full Year Course

Honors Physics is the study of matter and energy; in particular, it is the study of how the motion of particles and energy shape our universe. This is an algebraic approach to understanding the principles of physics, with qualitative understanding supported with Algebra II level mathematics.

Advanced Physics Honors (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Physics Honors) Full Year Course

Advanced Physics Honors is the intensive study of matter and energy; in particular, it is the study of how the motion of particles and energy shape our universe. This is an algebraic approach to understanding the principles of physics, with qualitative understanding supported with Algebra II level mathematics.

Environmental Science (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Biology or Chemistry) Full Year Course

Environmental Science encompasses all the sciences, along with economics, to better understand how the world works. A variety of projects and labs enhance the learning environment.

Anatomy and Physiology Honors (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Biology or Chemistry) Full Year Course

This course fulfills the state requirement for an advanced science credit. The Anatomy and Physiology course is designed for students to conduct laboratory and field investigations, use scientific methods during investigations and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students in Anatomy and Physiology will study a variety of topics, including the structure and function of the human body and the interactions of body systems for maintaining homeostasis.

Social Studies

World Geography (9th grade) Full Year Course

Students will become geographically literate, with the goal of enabling them to make better sense of the world and become good stewards of God's creation.

World Geography Honors (9th grade) Full Year Course

This is a more demanding study of World Geography which will require higher level thinking skills and greater application of learning.

World History (10th grade) Full Year Course

World History is a survey of world history from prehistoric to contemporary times. Students will learn about the socio-economic, political, and ideological conditions of various time periods as they study historical events and cultural achievements of world regions.

World History Honors (10th grade) Full Year Course

This is a higher-level study of World History that requires a greater degree of academic excellence and skills necessary to prepare students for college level work.

United States History (11th grade) Full Year Course

US History traces the political, economic, social and cultural development of the United States from the early Colonial era to the end of the 20th Century.

United States History Honors (11th grade) Full Year Course

This is a higher-level study of US History that requires a greater degree of academic excellence and skills necessary to prepare students for college level work.

Economics (12th grade) 1 Semester Course

This course provides an overview of microeconomic and macroeconomic issues and an understanding of the economic choices that individuals, firms, and governments face.

Economics Dual Credit (12th grade) 1 Semester Course fee based course

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval.

Principles of Microeconomics is an analysis of the behavior of individual economic agents, including consumer behavior and demand, producer behavior and supply, price and output decisions by firms under various market structures, factor markets, market failures, and international trade. 3 hours college credit/one-half high school credit.

American Government (12th grade) 1 Semester Course

Government covers the institutions and political processes affecting the federal government. Students are introduced to the underlying philosophy and principles of the US Constitution, civil rights, civil liberties and citizen responsibilities.

American Government Dual Credit (12th grade) 1 Semester Course fee based course

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval.

POLS 2503 (US Government) The constitution and structure of the United States government will be emphasized. In addition, forces that impact the federal government's operation will also be evaluated including the role of the media, the economy, and its global relations. 3 hours college credit/one-half high school credit

Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

Spanish I (9th grade) Full Year Course

Spanish I is designed to teach Spanish I is designed to teach basic grammar, vocabulary, and verb conjugation, with an emphasis on meaningful communication. The main objective of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to build and strengthen their skills in speaking, reading, listening and writing in Spanish.

Spanish II (10th grade) (Prerequisite: Spanish I) Full Year Course

Spanish II is designed to continue building on a strong vocabulary, verb conjugation and basic conversations. There is also a cultural component, which exposes students to the geography and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. The main objective of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to refine and strengthen their skills in speaking, reading, listening and writing in Spanish.

Spanish III Honors (11th grade) (Prerequisite: Spanish II) Full Year Course

Spanish III Honors is designed to continue building on a strong vocabulary, verb conjugation and should be able to hold small conversations. The students will create more with the language through various projects and interactive activities. The main objective of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to refine and strengthen their skills in speaking, reading, listening and writing in Spanish at a more advanced level.

Spanish IV Honors (12th grade) (Prerequisite: Spanish III) Full Year Course

Spanish IV Honors is designed to continue building on a strong vocabulary, verb conjugation and should be able to hold small conversations. The students will create more with the language through various projects, presentations and interactive activities. There is a focus on conversational Spanish. The students are required to use the Spanish that they know consistently. Students will prepare for the Spanish CLEP exam.

American Sign Language I (ASL I) (9th grade) Full Year Course

This course covers the basics of American Sign Language and is an introduction to making simple conversations with the This course builds upon level one by making meaningful use of language in the classroom while focusing on grammar and continued study of the deaf culture. vocabulary while briefly looking at the deaf culture.

American Sign Language II (ASL II) (10th grade) (Prerequisite: ASL I) Full Year Course

This course builds upon level one by making meaningful use of language in the classroom while focusing on advanced grammar and continued study of the deaf culture.

American Sign Language III Honors (ASL III H) (11th grade) (Prerequisite: ASL II) Full Year Course

This course builds upon level one and two by making meaningful use of language in the classroom while focusing on advanced grammar and continued study of the deaf culture.

American Sign Language IV Honors (ASL IV H) (12th grade) (Prerequisite ASL III)

Full Year Course

In addition to what ASL 3 offers, this class offers 4 additional projects of studying, researching and observing the deaf culture. This class also goes into the elementary classroom and teaches basic ASL to the students.

Fine Arts

Art I: Studio Art (9th or 10th) Full Year Course

Art I is an introductory level, two-dimensional design course incorporating a variety of drawing and painting techniques, including an introduction into Ceramics. The curriculum focus is on creativity with accurate beginner-level implementation of the Elements and Principles of Design. Art History connections are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is encouraged and available.

Art II: Studio Art (10th) Full Year Course

Art II is a continuation of Art I with a stronger emphasis of application of the Elements and Principles of Design. It is a two-dimensional design course focusing on drawing and painting techniques, with a continuation of Ceramics. Art History connections are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is encouraged and available.

Art III: Studio Art (11th or 12th Grade) Full Year Course

Art III is a continuation of Art II with a strong emphasis of application of the Elements and Principles of Design. It is a two-dimensional design course focusing on the application of drawing and painting techniques covered in Art I/II, with a bigger focus on Ceramics. Art History connections are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is expected.

Art IV: Studio Art & Senior Portfolio (12th Grade) Full Year Course

This course is designed for the serious art student who has shown a desire to develop further technical skills in drawing, painting, mixed media and Ceramics. Focus from Art III is continued with further study of concepts such as: space, form, line, contour, gesture, texture, value and composition in still life, landscape, perspective and figure/portraiture, and Ceramics. Various media and Art History are integrated. Participation in art contests is expected, and development of a Senior Portfolio is encouraged. ***The Senior Portfolio is designed for the purpose of advancing serious art students to produce a solid portfolio that shows mastery in concept, composition, and the execution of 2-D design, drawing, mixed media, and ceramics. Students developing their Senior Portfolio should expect the course to be rigorous in nature.*

Craft & Sculpture I: (9th or 10th Grade) Full Year Course

Craft & Sculpture I is an introductory level, three-dimensional design course incorporating a variety of artisan techniques, sculptural media, and Ceramics. The curriculum focus is on creativity with accurate beginner-level implementation of the Elements and Principles of Design. Art History connections are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is encouraged and available, and service projects are included.

Craft & Sculpture II: (11th or 12th Grade) Full Year Course

Craft & Sculpture II is a continuation of Craft & Sculpture I, with stronger emphasis on three-dimensional design as it relates to a variety of artisan techniques, sculptural media, and Ceramics. The curriculum focus is on creativity with accurate upper-level implementation of the Elements and Principles of Design. Art History connections are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is expected, and service projects are included.

Exploring Painting (9th - 12th) Full Year Course

Exploring Painting is an extension of the Studio Art courses designed for students with a strong interest in improving their painting techniques. The curriculum is focused on broadening the student's knowledge-base and allowing exploration/experimentation with watercolor, acrylic, and oil painting media. Art History connections to both well-known painters and living artists are incorporated and studied throughout the course. Participation in art contests is encouraged and available.

Theatre Arts I (9th - 12th grade) Full Year Course

Devoted to teaching the students the foundations of theater and introducing them to all levels of theater activities. Covers fundamentals of acting (voice, movement, characterization, improvisation), exploring dramatic literature and theatre history, and on-stage performance, Introduction to technical elements like set, costume design, lighting, and sound.

Theatre Arts II-IV (9th-12th grade) (Prerequisite Theatre Arts 1 or MS Theatre Arts with teacher approval)

Full Year Course

Advanced Theatre Skills that build upon elements covered in Theatre Arts I. All elements of voice, acting, movement, on-stage performance, musical theatre, and putting on a production are covered. These elements are expected to be executed at a higher level than beginning theatre.

Play Production (9th - 12th grade) (Teacher approval required) Full Year Course (.5 credits)

Audition only class focused on preparation for TAPPS One Act Play and TAPPS academic meet and HCA Musical.

Typically a range of elements such as lighting, sound, set, and costume design are covered and developed.

Choir (9th-12th Course Offering) Prerequisite: None

Full Year Course

This course will describe and analyze musical sound and demonstrate musical artistry while performing a varied repertoire of music, individually and in groups. Students are expected to sight-read music, interpret music symbols and terms, and relate music to history, society and culture. Preparation for and participation in various performances and competitions are emphasized. Students must meet eligibility requirements to perform at contests, and other public events. Choir requires practice outside of the school day and on those occasions parents would be responsible for transportation. Fees may apply.

Secondary Band (9th-12th Course Offering)

Full Year Course

This course will describe and analyze musical sound and demonstrate musical artistry while performing a varied repertoire of music, individually and in groups. Students are expected to sight-read music, interpret music symbols and terms, and relate music to history, society, and culture. Preparation for and participation in various performances and competitions are emphasized. Both beginning and intermediate levels are welcome.

Advanced Worship Leadership (10th - 12th Grade Course Offering) (Audition Only) Full Year Course

This course is a practicum designed to give students the opportunity to grow as worship leaders. Focus for the course will be on preparing and leading worship in chapel each week. Further attention will be given to developing the heart of a worship leader, increasing one's musical skill in worship, establishing a theological sensitivity in song analysis, exploring the practice of songwriting, and embracing other spiritual disciplines related to corporate and individual worship. Student audition is required.

Intermediate Worship Team (9th -11th Grade Course Offering) (Audition Only) Full Year Course

This introductory course is a practicum designed to give students the opportunity to grow as worship leaders. Focus for the course will be on preparing and leading worship, learning the basics of performance, and reading music. Further attention will be given to developing the heart of a worship leader, increasing one's musical skill in worship, establishing a theological sensitivity in song analysis, exploring the practice of songwriting, and embracing other spiritual disciplines related to corporate and individual worship.

Graphic Design (9-12th grades) Full Year Course

Provides students with the opportunity to explore careers in graphic design and digital illustration. Students will begin to develop technical knowledge and skills using both Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator with a focus on fundamental elements and principles of visual art and design.

Graphic Design II (10-12th grades) (Prerequisite: Digital Design I and teacher approval) Full Year Course

By invitation only, students will continue to develop the fundamental graphic design and illustration skills they learned in the previous course. Students will have the opportunity to develop graphics for various school groups and the school itself, giving them the opportunity to work with clients to meet their design needs and expand their portfolio.

Technology Applications and STEAM Cluster

Technology Help Desk

Students learn computer troubleshooting and repair skills. This small, selective team will apply skills by performing basic maintenance and repair as they serve as assistants to the Director of Technology,. Student interview required.

Digital Design (10-12th grades) Full Year Course

Provides students with the opportunity to explore careers in graphic design and illustration. Students will begin to develop technical knowledge and skills with a focus on fundamental elements and principles of visual art and design.

Digital Design II (10-12th grades) (Prerequisite: Digital Design I and teacher approval) Full Year Course

By invitation only, students will continue to develop the fundamental graphic design and illustration skills they learned in the previous course. Students will also learn about aspects of the advertising and visual communications industries, including working with clients to meet their design needs.

Digital Marketing: Business 101 (9th-12th grade offering) Half year course

Technology has enabled businesses to speak to their customers in new, creative ways, and this course gives students the opportunity to learn how to do the same. This project-based course will teach students how to use the newest types of digital marketing strategies with opportunities for real-world application. Project based learning curriculum. Freshman allowed on a case-by-case basis.

Introduction to Broadcast (9th-12th grades) Full Year Course

In this year-long class, you will be introduced to various aspects of the news media, with a central focus on video production, scripting for broadcast, on-air performance, and media literacy. You will also learn the various phases of television production and gain hands-on experience with professional equipment and mobile technology. You will learn the process of scriptwriting, storytelling, editing and how to capture the images that tell a story your viewers will remember. In this class you will gain knowledge and learn the proper procedures to become proficient in the various areas of broadcasting. You will participate in the technical production and/or on-air performance for *Eagle TV*, the weekly high school magazine-style news program. This class requires a high level of responsibility.

Intermediate Broadcasting (10th-12th grades) (Prerequisite: Introduction to Broadcast and teacher approval) Full Year Course

In this year-long class, you will gain a greater understanding of the news media, with a deeper focus on video production, scripting for broadcast, on-air performance, and media literacy. You will take a greater role in mentoring first year broadcast students, as well as the management of studio operations, both technical production and on-air performance for *Eagle TV*, the high school's magazine-style news program. This class requires a higher level of responsibility.

Advanced Broadcasting (11th-12th grades) (Prerequisite: Intermediate Broadcasting and teacher approval) Full Year Course

In this year-long class, you will continue your study of all aspects of, and the practical application of, news media to an even deeper level. You will take on a significant leadership role in the creation and production of all campus-based broadcast media, with emphasis on team management and leadership. You will take an active role in the management of all broadcast operations, both technical production and on-air performance for *Eagle TV*, the school's magazine-style news program. This class requires an extreme level of responsibility.

Introduction to STEAM (9th-12th Course Offering) Prerequisite: None Full Year or One semester

Introduction to STEAM is appropriate for high school students who are interested in the basic elements of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics, with an emphasis in this course on design and engineering. The major focus of the course is to expose students to design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. This gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through various activities, projects, and problem-based learning.

PE

Athletics/Cheer (9th - 12th Grade Course Offering) Offered only after school hours

Required 1.0 credits to be earned in high school

Team sports offered during specific seasons.

Dance (9th - 12 Grade Offering)

Full Year

Course is designed to teach students basic dance technique, then progress to full routines. Classes are devoted to stretching and conditioning, emphasizing proper placement and form. Beginning combinations will be kept simple, with the stress on clean technique and repetitions. Students will start slowly and then progress to faster and varied tempos. Performances outside of the school day will be required at various sporting events and competitions.

Athletic Training (9th - 12th Grade Course Offering) 1 Semester Course

Students must be approved by the Athletic Director.

Off-Campus PE (9th - 12th Grade Only)

Approval for this course is only granted by the HCA Athletic Director.

College Readiness

College Readiness 1 (11th Grade offering) 1 Semester Course

This course prepares the student for the college application process, as well as the college selection process. Topics also include college terminology, expectations, effective college visits, and college entrance test scheduling.

Learning Framework Dual Credit EDUC1300 (10th or 11th grade)

Students must meet college requirements for admission and high school administration approval. Fee based.

This study of the models of strategic learning, cognition, and motivation serve as the basis for the introduction of college-level academic strategies. Students use assessment instruments such as learning inventories to help them identify their own strengths and weaknesses as strategic learners and will be expected to apply this knowledge to their academic coursework. 3 hours college credit/ one-half high school credit.

Online Dual Credit Electives

**There are various dual credit electives offered online via LeTourneau University and Collin College that our students are eligible to take. These electives vary from semester to semester and require a fee to the institution registered. Students do not need these electives for HCA graduation but can take these electives at their own discretion.*

Additional State and Local Electives

Yearbook (10th - 12th Grade Course Offering) Application Required

Produce the school's annual yearbook. Commitment to attend Yearbook Camp is required.

Full Year Course

Foundations in Personal Finance (10th - 12th Grade Course Offering) Prerequisite: None Semester long

This course is designed to lay a strong foundation of financial literacy and can help support various life goals, such as saving for education or retirement, using debt responsibly, and running a business. Key aspects to financial literacy include Dave Ramsey curriculum, knowing how to create a budget, plan for retirement, manage debt, and track personal spending.

Peer Assisted Leadership Strategies (PALS)

This class provides opportunities for selected students to be peer helpers to other students in our school and community. This course helps prepare students for leadership positions in our school and community. Interview required.

Full Year Course

Psychology (10th-12th Course Offering) Prerequisite: None

Introduces the student to the science of psychology with emphasis on human behavior. This course includes the study of facts involved in human development, learning and thinking, intelligence, personality, abnormal behavior and treatment and careers in psychology.

Full Year Course

Woodworking Basics (9th-12th Course Offering) **Prerequisite:** None

Course is designed to teach students basic hand tool woodworking skills and knowledge while building projects such as birdhouse, foot stool, three legged stool, and toolbox. There is an introduction to shellac wood finishing at the end of the course using the course projects. The first several weeks consist of hand-tool and shop safety, hand sharpening chisels and tool blades, and designing. The reminder of the class provides the students with the ability to safely use hand tools and limited power tools while producing completed take-home projects. Space is limited to 10 students.

Full Year Course

Percussion Basics (9th - 12th grade offering) **Full or Half Year Course**

Drumline Class is designed for continuing instruction in technique on marching percussion instruments, reinforcement of ear training skills, interpretive skills and musical knowledge. It is also meant to give students the opportunity to play the standard scholastic band repertoire in concert and contest. This course emphasizes proper instrumental technique, developing an understanding of music theory and terminology, proper interpretation of musical notation, as well as professional practices and habits, as well as being a cooperative and productive member of a musical ensemble.

Competition Chess (9th-12 grade offering)

This course involves a detailed study of strategic as well as tactical ideas that make chess one of the oldest and most popular games in the world. Students learn the basic checkmates and strategic ideas such as king safety, opening principles, middle and end games, and controlling the center. Interested students will be able to gain a national chess rating and compete in scholastic tournaments as well.

Full or Half Year Course

Marketing and Entrepreneurship (9th and 10th grade offering)

Peer teaching exercises and on-the-job practice help students develop their communication, customer service, leadership and management skills. Mock introductions, mock interviews, professional etiquette, resume writing, sales pitches, group efforts, and more are an integral part of this elective.

Full or Half Year Course

Test Prep (9th - 12th grade offering)

A comprehensive test prep course (e.g., SAT, ACT, GRE) provides structured review, test-taking strategies, and practice materials to maximize scores. Courses typically include diagnostic tests to identify weak areas, in-depth subject matter review, and, for many, live expert instruction or on-demand, interactive, and self-paced content.

Half Year Course

HCA
Grades 7-8
Course
Guide
2026-2027



Middle School Course Offerings

7th Grade

Bible Full Year Course

The Christian Story: 7th grade Bible is a survey of the Christian story. This course will focus on the whole Christian story—from creation to new creation—and how the middle school student can fit into the story and mission of God. Students will gain perspective as they survey God’s relationship with his people, learning from biblical and historical characters and applying the promises of God revealed in their lives to students’ lives today. This course will culminate with an invitation for the student to passionately participate in the Christian story through obedience to the command of Christ—to follow Him.

English Full Year Course

The English 7 course is designed to meet the educational needs of students through the study of reading, writing, grammar, research and listening/speaking. Literature, in a variety of forms, is studied to enrich and develop critical thinking and analysis skills. Writing critically as well as creatively continues to be developed.

Pre-Algebra Full Year Course

Math 7 Pre-Algebra focuses on the following areas of study: numeracy, proportionality, algebraic relationships, probability, and statistics. Students use mathematical concepts, algorithms, and properties to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations.

Science Full Year Course

Grade 7 science is interdisciplinary in nature; however, much of the content focus is on organisms and the environment. Content in this course includes (i) Matter and energy, (ii) Force, motion, and energy, (iii) Earth and space studies and (iv) Organisms and environments. Students will use computers for support to investigate scientific knowledge. This is the appropriate science course for those students who are enrolled in on-level mathematics.

Texas History Full Year Course

In this course students will study the history and geography of Texas from early times to the present. The historical content stresses the impact people of different backgrounds and traditions had in building the republic, the state and the state’s destiny in the 20th and 21st centuries. The geographical content looks at the environment and how it has affected the history of Texas.

Athletics

Students can choose to take an athletic course which focuses on fitness and lifetime sports and can participate on athletic teams. Sports available:

7th grade boys: Football
 Cross Country
 Cheer (Mascot)
 Basketball
 Track & Field
 Golf

7th grade girls: Volleyball
 Cross Country
 Cheer
 Basketball
 Track & Field
 Dance
 Golf

Middle School Course Offerings

8th Grade

Bible Full Year Course

The Christian Life: 8th grade Bible is a survey on the Christian life. This course is designed to equip the middle school student for the life-long journey of discipleship, through abiding in and imitating the way of Jesus. Emphasis will be given on training students how to walk with Jesus daily, developing rhythms and routines that form them into the image of Christ. Students will gain tools on how to inductively study Scripture and how to view every part of their life through the lens of the gospel, discovering the joy of following Jesus through their teen years and for the rest of their lives.

English 8 Full Year Course

The English 8 curriculum introduces students to the expectations of the high school English Honors courses through academic rigor by exploring a variety of reading and writing analysis as well as the study of grammar, research and listening/speaking skills. One goal of this course is to foster independent learning and encourage in-depth exploration of the content. This is done through the study of all types of literature. Students will write in a variety of modes including responses to literature, persuasive, narrative and expository essays. All students are nurtured and challenged in this course of study.

Algebra I (High School Credit)

Full Year Course

High School level course which creates the foundation of Algebra including topics of solving equations and inequalities, introduction to functions, graphing, and operations with polynomials and introduction to exponents and radicals..

Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC) High School Credit

Full Year Course

Covers the following topics: motion, waves, energy transformations, properties of matter, changes in matter and basic principles of chemistry. Designed for students currently in Algebra I.

U.S. History to 1877

Full Year Course

This course provides an in-depth examination of American history from the early Colonial Period through Reconstruction. Students will analyze the various economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the Republic while they identify the origins of the free enterprise system. They will also examine the rights and responsibilities of citizens of the U.S., as well as the importance of effective leadership in a democratic society.

Athletics/PE

Students can choose to take a PE course which focuses on fitness and lifetime sports and can participate on athletic teams. Sports available to 8th grade boys:

Football
Cheer (Mascot)
Cross Country
Basketball
Track & Field
Golf

8th grade girls:

Volleyball
Cheer
Cross Country
Basketball
Track & Field
Dance
Golf

Electives

MS Creative Writing:

We will be exploring different genres of writing, through both reading and writing. Through thinking and discussing, you will hopefully become a better reader, writer, and thinker. Some of the genres covered will be journal writing, memoir, poetry, mystery stories, fairy tales, journalism and newspaper pieces, to name a few. The class will also focus on helping you become a better technical writer, as well as a creative one.

MS STEAM:

Do you enjoy learning with your hands? Facilitated by a partnership between science, technology, art, and math, students will learn basic principles of engineering, physics, geometry and design through real world learning experiences designed to teach you how to think for yourself and with others. These learning experiences allow students to discover, create, and puzzle their way to their own solutions to real-world problems using their own ingenuity and fun technology. As students apply the STEAM standards, they will also refine leadership and problem solving skills through collaboration.

MS Robotics:

Devoted to teaching the students the foundations of robotics with regard to principles of robot design, mechanical basics, programming, construction, and operation. Hands-on experiences for students to gain understanding of these concepts.

Middle School Broadcasting:

This year-long class will be a hands-on experience in learning the basics of technical production and/or on-air performance used in broadcast media. You will participate in the technical production and/or on-air performance for *Eagle TV*, the weekly magazine-style news program for HCA. This class requires a high level of responsibility.

Intermediate Worship Leadership (Music):

This course is a foundational class in the basics of worship leading. Students will learn the basics of

what it means to be a worship leader, gain the basics of music theory, and have opportunities to improve on their skills in voice, guitar, keyboard, and drums. Practical opportunities will be given to students to lead in secondary and elementary chapel worship. If you love music and have a passion for leading worship, this class is for you!

Art & Sculpture:

Middle School Art & Sculpture is an introductory level course designed to give students with an interest in the visual arts a broad foundation of various 2D and 3D techniques. The first semester focuses on 2D projects, and the 2nd semester focuses on Ceramics and 3D works. Elements of Art & Principles of Design are utilized throughout the course, providing students with foundational skills needed in more advanced art courses.

Middle School Language Wheel:

Students will spend one semester with either Spanish or ASL language teachers and learn the basics of that language. During the other semester, students will switch. Introduction to culture and language of both. Not for high school credit.

MS Theater:

Devoted to teaching the students the foundations of theater and introducing them to all levels of theater activities.

MS Competition Chess:

Whether or not you are a chess rookie or a budding grand master, chess is the class for you. It will involve a detailed study of strategic as well as tactical ideas that make chess one of the oldest and most popular games in the world. You will learn the basic checkmates and strategic ideas such as king safety, opening principles, middle and end games, and controlling the center. You will learn tactical ideas such as pins, forks, skewers, double and discovered checks and clearance. You will even learn some crazy chess words like Zugzwang, luft, en passant, J'adoube and Zwischenzug. Interested students will be able to gain a national chess rating and compete in scholastic tournaments as well.

MS Success: Course is designed to help students improve learning effectiveness and motivation. Students will have the opportunity to work in a small, individualized setting that focuses on study skills, test preparation, note taking tips, digital citizenship, and more. These topics will help guide middle schoolers in an effort to help set them up for success as they begin their journeys in secondary school.

MS Woodworking Basics: Course is designed to teach students basic hand tool woodworking skills and knowledge while building projects such as birdhouse, foot stool, three legged stool, and toolbox. There is an introduction to shellac wood finishing at the end of the course using the course projects. The first several weeks consist of hand-tool and shop safety, hand sharpening chisels and tool blades, and designing. The remainder of the class provides the students with the ability to safely use hand tools and limited power tools while producing completed take-home projects. Space is limited to 10 students.

Beginning Band: Course is designed to teach students basics of instruments, technique, and music. Beginning Band is a class that focuses on playing band instruments. Students in this class do not need any experience playing instruments, but could have up to a few years of experience. Students will learn proper instrumental technique, with a focus on long-term development.

MS Percussion Basics: Course is designed to teach students basic percussion technique, rhythm, and how to read music. Students can have experience but it is not required.

MS Dance: Course is designed to teach students basic dance technique, then progress to full routines. Classes are devoted to stretching and conditioning, emphasizing proper placement and form. Beginning combinations will be kept simple, with the stress on clean technique and repetitions. Students will start slowly and then progress to faster and varied tempos.