

# Manhattan Christian School

*Partnering with you for Life!*

## High School Academic Handbook

2024-2025



Manhattan Christian inspires students to live God-glorifying lives by teaching Christ's lordship in faith, learning, and living.

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## Welcome

Welcome to Manhattan Christian School! We are glad that you are here as part of our community! We believe that each member of this community is important. As Paul says in 1 Corinthians, “We are all baptized by one Spirit into the body.” He goes on to explain that every part of the body is vital and that each part uniquely contributes to a greater whole. This is true of our community at Manhattan Christian, too. Each student is uniquely valued, and their presence contributes to a more dynamic experience.

It is our desire to plant in you a love for learning that will stay with you for the rest of your life. We believe that every square inch of our universe belongs to God and that Christ is its Lord. We intend to help you experience Christ’s forgiving and merciful lordship: over your head, as you explore with others the vastness of His creation; over your heart, as you grow in your relationship with Jesus as your personal Savior; and over your hands as you learn to serve Him at home, school, and in our greater community.

Relationships are of utmost importance within any community. This handbook is our way of seeking to provide a positive atmosphere wherein relationships may grow. Please read the course offerings carefully and speak with one of the administrators if anything is unclear. We trust that we can work together as a team to make our time together one of blessing and growth.

We trust that we will have a great year together! Paul exclaims, “Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!... For from him and through him and to him are all things.” (Romans 11:33–36) May God bless us as we partner together to grow in our knowledge, and faith, and our service!

## Mission

Manhattan Christian inspires students to live God-glorifying lives by teaching Christ’s lordship in faith, learning, and living.

## Vision

Manhattan Christian School seeks to:

- Grow together with our students in knowledge, conviction, and maturity.
- Create a dynamic vision of Christ’s lordship.
- Nurture a personal relationship with Jesus Christ that develops a Christ-like love demonstrated to all people.
- Inspire each other to strive for His glory in all of life.

## Portrait of a Graduate

Manhattan Christian School is seeking to develop lasting characteristics in its graduates. It is our goal that our graduate will:

- Practice godly discernment
- Sacrifice themselves as servant leaders
- Dare to think deeply and take action
- Walk humbly in Christ’s footsteps with obedience and joy
- Create in thankful response to our Savior

## **Academic Load**

A normal minimum academic load for high school students is seven (7) credits per year. High school students are to have no more than 1 study hall per semester.

### **Course Selection**

Individual schedules will be based on courses selected when registering. Students will be accommodated based on grade level, academic need, class space available, and other factors.

## **Seniors**

Each student who will be a senior has the responsibility to be certain that he/she is scheduled in all of the courses necessary to meet graduation requirements. The school counselor will work with students in planning their schedules to meet these requirements, but the final responsibility for taking all of the required courses rests with the student. If a student should fail any class(es), that student must be sure to make the schedule change necessary to pass the failed class(es) and to assure graduation with your class.

## **Dropping Courses**

Students may withdraw from a course through the first week of the semester provided they:

1. Have recommendations from the teacher
2. Have parent approval
3. Have administrative approval

A failing grade may be given for courses dropped after the second week of the school year or semester. This failing grade will become part of the student's permanent record. Special situations will be considered.

## **Honor Roll, Grade Point Average, and Class Rank**

Students with a grade point average of at least 3.33 on the 4.0 scale will achieve honor roll status. Grade point averages (GPA) and class rank are calculated on the 4.0 scale. Both grade point averages and class ranks appear on student transcripts.

## **Diploma**

A diploma certifying a successful completion of requirements for graduation shall be issued on the basis of successful completion of the 24-credit requirement, including required and elective courses as specified, and payment of all financial fees due at school.

## **Official Transcript**

Students who do not meet the minimum requirements for graduation but do attend high school for four years will be provided an official transcript that shows the record of their attendance. Students who do not meet the minimum graduation requirements will not take part in the graduation exercises.

## **Course Requirements**

A normal, minimum academic load for high school students is seven (7) credits per year. All fees, fines, and book bills are to be paid before students can take examinations at the end of each semester.

## Online Class Policy

1. All courses selected must be requested through the school counselor. They will then be brought to the Education Committee.
2. All courses must be provided by an approved provider. Approved providers must be accredited by one of the following agencies: CSI, ACSI, Cognia, OPIMT.
3. Costs for online courses are the sole responsibility of the student and parent. If a required course is not available to a student because of schedule drops in the class, fails the class or changes the class resulting in additional fees, students will be assessed those fees. If online class is necessary because the student has failed a required MCS classroom student will be responsible for those online class fees.
4. Generally, the student must be a junior or senior class member. (Under special circumstances it will be allowed for underclassmen.)
5. The course is not offered at Manhattan Christian High School.
6. The number of courses should be limited to one per semester.
7. The course needs to be approved by the Education Committee of the School Board as filing a specific need and will not be met at Manhattan Christian High School.
8. Supervision– Manhattan Christian will provide staff supervision for all courses taken online with the purpose of providing accountability and to encourage students to complete all coursework in a timely manner as outlined in course materials. Normally, this supervision will be provided by the school counselor or designee.
  - a. Receiving regular progress checks
  - b. The MCS Supervisor will enroll students online
  - c. Technical assistance when necessary
  - d. Proctoring of final exams when necessary or requested

As with any independent educational opportunity the student is the person primarily responsible for academic success.

## Grading and Assessment

Student evaluations for academic progress and behavior are made by teachers and based on classroom and written performance. Following is the key to our marking system of A, B, C, D, F, and I:

A- Superior	D- Below average
B- Above Average	F- Failure
C- Average	I- Incomplete

Following is a general guideline for converting letter grades into percentage scale:

Grade point Average		Scale					
A	4.00	C	2.00	A	94-100	C	73-76
A-	3.67	C-	1.67	A-	90-93	C-	70-72
B+	3.33	D+	1.33	B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	3.00	D	1.00	B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	2.67	D-	.67	B-	82-80	D-	60-62
C+	2.33	F	.00	C+	77-79	F	0-59

## Incomplete Grades

Students who receive an incomplete (I) grade at the end of a marking period have two weeks from the end of the marking period to complete the work. After that date, the "I" grade automatically becomes an "F".

## **Semester Exams**

All students will take semester exams. Exams account for 20% of the semester grade. It is important that students adequately prepare for their exams. MCS requires students to take exams within the provided exam schedule. Students requesting to take exams either before or after a scheduled exam will pay a \$50 fee, per exam, to compensate the respective teacher for additional time required to provide and administer an alternate exam.

A senior will be exempt from his/her second semester exams if his/her third quarter GPA is at or above his/her cumulative school GPA (or maintain at least a 3.7), the fourth quarter grades maintain the cumulative level, and if s/he has missed no more than three (3) school days during the second semester. (School-sponsored absences, absences excused with a doctor's note, and one (1) college visit of reasonable length are not included in these 3 days; however, time to work out of school on the Senior Project is included in the 3 days.) The fourth quarter grades will be examined the second-to-last Friday of the semester and the second semester GPA will be determined approximately a week before exams are to begin. If a senior has any unexcused absences during his/her final semester, s/he will be required to take exams. Seniors taking exams will do so the last week of regularly scheduled classes.

## **College Requirements**

Students should check with the school counselor and the college(s) of choice for possible requirements that go beyond our graduation requirements. For example, Montana State University requires three credits of mathematics at the high school level. Some colleges have foreign language requirements. If students are looking to play college athletics, the NCAA also has their own set of college entrance requirements. It is highly advisable for students thinking of going to such a college to take foreign language in high school. Students should be aware of the requirements for colleges they may consider attending early in their high school years. The school counselor will help students with this concern.

## Graduation Requirements and Course List

Required Courses for Graduation			Electives (Not All Offered Every Year)				
Subject	Course	CR	Subject	Course	CR		
<b>Bible</b> (2 credits required)	Old Testament Survey (9)	1/2	<b>Social Studies</b>	Economics	1		
	New Testament Survey (10)	1/2		Psychology	1		
	Ethics (11)	1/2		World Issues	1		
	Apologetics (12)	1/2	<b>Fine Arts</b>	Choir	1		
<b>English</b> (4.5 credits required)	English (9)	1		Band	1		
	English (10)	1		Art Appreciation	1		
	English AND Speech (11)	1 1/2		Ceramics 1	1		
	English 12 OR AP English (12)	1		Ceramics 2	1		
<b>Mathematics</b> (3 credits required)	Algebra (9)	1		Ceramics 3	1		
	Geometry (10)	1		Ceramics 4	1		
<b>Social Studies</b> (3 credits required)	World History (10)	1		Drawing 1	1		
	U.S. History (11)	1		Drawing 2	1		
	Principles of Democracy (12)	1		Drawing 3	1		
<b>Science</b> (2 credits required)	Biology/Astronomy (9, 10)	1		Drawing 4	1		
	Physical Science (9, 10)	1		Painting 1	1		
<b>Physical Education</b> (1 credit required)	Health (9)	1/2	Painting 2	1			
	Health (10)	1/2	Painting 3	1			
<b>Fine Arts</b> (1 credit required)	Art	1	Painting 4	1			
	Band	1	Crafts 1	1			
	Choir	1	Crafts 2	1			
<b>Practical Arts</b> (1 credit required)	Computer Applications (9)	1/2	<b>Foreign Language</b>	Spanish 3	1		
	Personal Finance (12)	1/2		Spanish 4	1		
<b>Senior Project</b> (1/2 credit required)	Senior Project	1/2	<b>Practical Arts</b>	Accounting	1		
<b>Electives</b> (7 credits required)				Yearbook	1		
				STEM	1		
				Robotics	1		
				Computer Animation	1/2		
				Desktop Publisher	1/2		
			Theater	1/2			
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>			<b>24</b>	<b>Physical Ed.</b>	Strength & Conditioning	1/2	
<b>Suggested College-Bound Requirements</b>			<b>Other</b>		Work Study	1/2	
<b>Mathematics</b> (2 additional credits)	College Algebra (11)	1			Teacher's Aide	1/2	
	Pre-Calculus (11)	1			Genre Literature	1/2	
	AP Statistics (11, 12)	1			Books to Film	1/2	
	AP Calculus (12)	1			World Building	1/2	
<b>Science</b> (2 additional credits)	Chemistry (11)	1			Praise & Worship	1/2	
	Anatomy (11, 12)	1			<b>Notes:</b>		
	Physics (12)	1					
<b>Foreign Language</b> (2 additional credits)	Spanish 1 (9)	1					
	Spanish 2 (10)	1					
<b>Fine Art/Practical Art</b> (1 additional credit)							
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>			<b>28</b>				
<b>Valedictorian/Salutatorian Requirements</b>							
<i>All of the above credits and at least four semesters of attendance at MCHS</i>							

**\* To qualify for valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must complete two years of foreign language.  
from Manhattan Christian High School, or another accredited high school.**

## **Academic Honors**

### **Honor Roll**

The Honor Roll is determined after each marking period. To be on the Honor Roll a student must have at least a 3.33 GPA and be carrying (6) or more credits in that marking period. A certificate will be awarded at the end of the year to the student who achieves the Honor Roll every marking period.

### **Scholastic Award**

A Scholastic Award is given at the end of the school year to the junior, sophomore, and freshman student who holds the highest GPA in their respective class. To qualify, students need a minimum of two semesters at MCS.

### **Citizenship Award**

A Citizenship Award is presented to the senior who best represents the ideals and goals of Manhattan Christian High School. This honor is awarded by teaching staff.

### **Christian Leadership Award**

A Christian Leadership Award is awarded by the board to the senior who has best demonstrated leadership and service. Seniors must apply for this award. See the Principal for an application.

### **Valedictorian and Salutatorian**

Providing the class and attendance requirements have been met, MCS presents these awards to the two students who have earned the highest GPA in their course of studies. In order to qualify for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, a student must complete the minimum of four semesters at MCHS and earn at least 28 credits. In addition to the normal graduation requirements, one to two additional credits in math, one to two additional credits in science, two years of Spanish, and one additional credit in fine or practical arts is required. In the event of a tie for Valedictorian, a weighted GPA will be calculated based on rigorous coursework.

### **National Honor Society**

Membership is open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Faculty members evaluate and induct students based on their: 1) academic performance, 2) leadership, 3) character, and 4) service. Nominations are made during the second semester. Sophomores must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5; juniors and seniors must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.33. Qualifying seniors, juniors, and sophomores are rated for membership by the faculty.



# High School Course Descriptions

*It is nothing but a pious wish and a grossly unwarranted hope that students trained to be passive and non-creative in school will suddenly, upon graduation, actively contribute to the formation of Christian culture.*

*–Nicholas Wolterstorff*

*Please note that courses are subject to instructor availability and schedule constraints-  
not all elective courses are guaranteed to be offered.*

## Bible

### *Required Classes*

#### **Old Testament Survey (Bible 9)**

1/2 credit

Bible 9 is an Old Testament Survey course using a Christian Schools International text, *God's Unfolding Kingdom*. The units within the course accent the growth of God's Kingdom throughout the Old Testament. Instructors will work in conjunction with the middle school Bible curriculum to accent the units not covered at that level. Students will journal on selected readings for the course work, memorize key verses accenting Biblical truths, and complete a project each quarter.

#### **New Testament Survey (Bible 10)**

1/2 credit

Bible 10 is a New Testament Survey course and uses Christian School International text, *Hope for God's Kingdom*. The units accent the Kingship of Jesus, the emergence of the church, the Epistles, and Revelation. Instructors will work in conjunction with the middle school Bible curriculum to accent the units not covered at the level. Students will journal on selected readings for the course work, memorize key verses accenting Biblical truths, and complete a research paper and presentation comparing world religion or cult to Christianity.

#### **Ethics (Bible 11)**

1/2 credit

What are Christian ethics: What is morality? How should a Christian approach tough moral and ethical issues? What are some of the difficult life decisions that people are facing today? This class is designed to answer these questions and more. Students will seek guidance for answering these questions from scripture, from the writings of prominent thinkers on specific issues, and through discussion. Issues covered include work, racism, wealth/poverty, war, medical ethics, sexuality, earth keeping, and more. Notes and Next: Class Handouts and *Exploring Ethics* from Christian Schools International.

#### **Apologetics (Bible 12)**

1/2 credit

What is Cristian Apologetics? Apologetics is the study of defending the Christian faith. A good defense is also a good endorsement of the true faith. The course includes: a brief study of church history with an emphasis on the early Christian Apologists, a close look at the history of the key doctrines of the Christian faith, an examination of competing worldviews, a close look at classic questions posed to Christians and a Reformed perspective for presenting and defending the faith. Notes and Texts: Class Handouts, and *Exploring Apologetics* from Christian Schools International

## English

### *Required Classes*

#### **English 9**

1 credit

Freshman English is a full-year course that covers a detailed review of grammar emphasizing formatting and applying those principles to writing. Research and creative writing are skills that are focused on through collaborative units with science and Bible classes. There are also units that include short stories, novels, and plays. These units include elements of writing as well as presentations.

#### **English 10**

1 credit

Sophomore English is divided into two distinct semesters. During the fall, students are introduced to well-known short stories, essays, and poems. They also read one novel. Students practice literary criticism and poetry analysis using terms and techniques presented in class. In analyzing both themes and content, students are encouraged to articulate a Christian response. During the spring, students will be introduced to Early American Literature in the form of speech excerpts, poetry and short nonfiction and fiction pieces.

#### **English 11**

1 credit

During the first semester, the students will learn the basics of good writing: grammar, punctuation, accurate description and clarity of expression. During the second semester, this course will survey the literature coming out of American traditions. Students will study the shaping of our national literature and the way it reflects the culture, ideas, and attitudes of its day. Students will read selected essays, poems, short stories, and two novels. Special attention will be given to the author's style and use of literary techniques.

#### **Speech**

1/2 credit

This single-semester class is required for all juniors. During the first quarter, students learn to write and analyze speeches while presenting How-To, Informative, and Persuasive Speeches. Emphasis is placed on developing a strong presentation style and identifying and limiting negative verbal habits. During the second quarter, students will be introduced to formal presentations and mock trials and students will participate in both, with an emphasis on structure and rules. The final project in the class asks students to write and present their personal testimonies to their peers.

#### **AP Literature and Composition**

Prerequisite: English 10

1 credit

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of American literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include

expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

## **English 12**

1 credit

During the first semester, students will take a grammar and composition refresher to prepare for the demands of college writing. Some topics included are rhetoric, punctuation, and the research and writing of a term paper. During the second semester, students will study the development of English literature using a chronological approach. The student will gain an understanding of the historical periods in which the literature was produced as well as knowledge of the various literary forms. The importance of evaluating literature from a Christian worldview will be stressed throughout the semester. Students will also cover public speaking in preparation for the senior project presentation

## **AP Language and Composition**

Prerequisite: English 11 or AP Literature & Composition

1 credit

This literature and composition course focuses on close reading of literary content. It focuses on the student's ability to comprehend and interpret the form and substance of poems and prose passages. In addition, students must write clear, concise and persuasive interpretive essays in which they demonstrate an understanding of the implications of a broad range of literature. The course is also preparation for the AP English Literature Exam offered at the end of the year.

### *Elective Classes*

## **Creative Writing**

Prerequisite: English 9 or teacher approval

1/2 Credit

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to think and write creatively. My goal as the teacher of this course is to encourage you to love writing and to guide you as you hone your craft. It is through writing that life becomes more meaningful to me, and I hope to inspire the same instincts in you that writing brings to me. Writing can clarify, heal, excite, encourage, remind, inspire, and make the world a better place. This class is the beginning for you to be a poet, a free-lance writer, a story teller, an essayist, a non-fiction writer, or whatever you choose to become as a writer. There will be many options presented to you. If you make the effort to write in this class you are assured a very good grade. The class is about exploring the different writing genres.

## **Technical Writing**

Prerequisite: English 10

1/2 Credit

Technical writing explores the guidelines and models for many types of explanatory and narrative writing: process, classification, definition, comparison, cause-effect, problem-solution, and college entrance. Students will learn to write essays that demonstrate that they have rigorously worked through the topic and understand it fully. Research/Technical Writing classes prepare students to write research papers and/or technical reports. This class emphasizes researching (primary and secondary sources), organizing (material, thoughts, and arguments), and writing in a persuasive or technical style.

## Fine Arts

### **Art Appreciation (I and II)\***

1/2 credit per semester

Art Appreciation is a survey of non-Western art. Slides, videos, and projects will supplement sections of the text.

### **Ceramics (I, II, III, and IV)\***

1/2 credit per semester

Ceramics will stress the three dimensional art of ceramics. Hand building, throwing on the potter's wheel, and clay decoration will be covered.

### **Crafts (I, II, III, and IV)\***

1/2 credit per semester

Crafts will develop a variety of craft skills as they relate to Art, fiber art, glass art, sculpture, jewelry, and paper pop-ups. Some printmaking (serigraphs and monoprints) is included as well.

### **Drawing (I, II, III, and IV)\***

1/2 credit per semester

Drawing will develop the student's drawing skills. A variety of media (pencil, colored pencil, chalk pastel, charcoal, pen & ink, and scratchboard) will be covered. It will be helpful to students who are looking at Art in a variety of careers.

### **Painting (I, II, III, and IV)\***

1/2 credit per semester

Painting will develop the skills of painting both in watercolor and acrylics. A variety of techniques in painting will help to develop proficiency in this area.

## Music

### **Concert Band**

1/2 credit per semester

Concert Band is primarily a performance class that consists of concerts, festivals, ceremonial events, and tours. A variety of musical styles, as well as history, theory, and technique will be taught. The primary objective is the development of instrumental skills: tone, intonation, rhythmic accuracy, interpretation, balance/blend, and playing technique. Concert Band also focuses on developing an appreciation for music and the life-long enjoyment it is capable of providing. Included in the band curriculum is also Pep band repertoire. Students are required to participate in Pep Band performances.

### **Concert Choir**

1/2 credit per semester

Concert Choir is primarily a performance class that consists of concerts, festivals, ceremonial events, and tours. A variety of musical styles, as well as history, theory, and technique will be taught. The primary

objective is the development of vocal skills: tone, intonation, interpretation, balance, blend, stage presence, advanced part-singing, and vocal technique. Students are challenged to be expressive and channel their emotions through music. Concert Choir is a course that also provides an outlet for students to praise God through all styles of music. Concert Choir focuses on developing an appreciation for music and the life-long enjoyment it is capable of providing.

### **Zero Hour Praise and Worship**

1/4 credit per semester

Praise and Worship is offered in the morning from 7:20 -8:10 am. This course is designed for students to receive first-hand experience shaping and developing the spiritual life at Manhattan Christian. Students are instructed on how to plan and lead worship services. They have the opportunity to develop and lead their own worship services with the student body bi-weekly. This course is designed for students who want to learn how to organize a worship service or who want to sing or play on the praise team during chapels.

## **Foreign Language**

### **Spanish I**

1 credit

Students will learn how to speak, read, write, and comprehend relevant vocabulary in Spanish, with a main focus on present tense verbs and conjugations. Cultural awareness, grammar, and written and spoken conversation skills are also introduced.

### **Spanish II**

Prerequisite: Spanish I

1 credit

Students will build on concepts learned in Spanish I, expanding and extending vocabulary and going into past preterit and past imperfect tenses, as well as gerunds and other verbal phrases. Writing and reading will be emphasized, as well as advances in conversation skills by way of story-telling. Cultures, connections, comparisons, communities and communication (the 5 C's of Foreign Language Learning) will also be introduced.

## **Mathematics**

*Required Classes*

### **Algebra I**

1 credit

Algebra is a required math course. It lays the foundation for all of higher mathematics. Among the topics studied are expressions, equations, Variables, Linear and quadratic equations, rational expressions, and radicals. A major emphasis of the course is problem solving– learning to set up problems and then solving them. Successful completion of Algebra I is a prerequisite for Geometry.

## **Geometry**

Prerequisite: Algebra I

1 credit

Geometry is the study of points, lines, planes, area, volume, and logic. In Geometry, we are establishing the mechanics for math skills and geometric relationships needed for further study in the field of mathematics.

### *Elective Classes*

## **College Algebra (Dual Enrollment)**

Prerequisite: Geometry

1 credit

In this course, algebraic concepts are revisited and brought to a deeper level of understanding. Higher level concepts such as polynomials, exponential and logarithmic function, and trigonometry are also introduced and studied. This course is a dual enrollment course through Gallatin College at MSU (M121) that satisfies general math requirements. It is a preparation for Precalculus and Calculus, and a prerequisite for M151 (Precalculus), M161 (Survey of Calculus), and CHMY141; and can be used as a prerequisite for STAT216 (Elementary Statistics).

## **Pre-Calculus (Dual Enrollment)**

Prerequisite: Geometry

1 credit

Pre-Calculus begins by reviewing and adding to the topics in Algebra. New topics covered include logarithms, conic sections, trigonometric functions and algebra skills necessary for calculus and college mathematics. Dual Enrollment through Helena College (M151).

## **AP Statistics**

Prerequisite: College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, or Teacher Approval

1 credit

This course is an introduction to college statistics. Students will become acquainted with data gathering, data organization, probability and technological tools to analyze statistics. This course will be most helpful for students who are possibly heading to tech school or who may be going to continue their studies in the social sciences rather than the natural sciences.

## **AP Calculus (Dual Enrollment)**

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

1 credit

Honors Calculus is a rigorous class in mathematics studying both differential and integral calculus. Students who successfully complete this course have the option of taking the Advanced Placement AB Calculus Test (a passing score earns college credit for one semester of calculus). Dual Enrollment through Helena College (M171).

## Physical Education

### *Required Classes*

#### **PE/Health 9**

1/2 credit

Students continue to develop socially, physically, intellectually, and spiritually. They will work on improving muscular development and coordination in the physical setting. Health will focus on improving the knowledge of the beautiful God-given human body as well as other spiritual and physical topics.

#### **PE/Health 10**

1/2 credit

Students continue to develop socially, physically, intellectually, and spiritually. They will work on improving muscular development and coordination in the physical setting. Health will focus on improving the knowledge of the beautiful God-given human body as well as other spiritual and physical topics.

### *Elective Classes*

#### **Strength & Conditioning**

1/2 credit per semester

Strength & Conditioning will help equip students to take a balanced approach to improving their health. The class will cover functional strength training, mobility, and nutrition. Each semester will begin with foundational movements and concepts to build upon throughout the semester. The strength training portion of class will put an emphasis on proper technique, while training practical movements that have direct crossover to sport and recreation.

#### **Zero Hour Strength & Conditioning**

1/4 credit per semester

Zero Hour Strength & Conditioning is offered in the morning from 7:20 -8:10 am. This option is available for athletes so there is rest between working out and their regularly scheduled practices. This class will help equip students to take a balanced approach to improving their health. The class will cover functional strength training, mobility, and nutrition. Each semester will begin with foundational movements and concepts to build upon throughout the semester. The strength training portion of class will put an emphasis on proper technique, while training practical movements that have direct crossover to sport and recreation.

## Practical Arts

### *Required Classes*

#### **Computer Applications**

1/2 credit

Students will learn to operate a computer within the Windows environment. The Windows Operating System as well as the Microsoft Office Suite and Google Apps will be covered extensively.



## **Personal Finance**

Prerequisite: Senior standing or teacher approval

1/2 credit

Students will learn the skills necessary to manage their personal finances and be responsible stewards of what has been given to them. Topics covered will include banking, insurance, taxes, savings and investing, time management, job hunting, using credit, budgeting, and consumer safety.

*Elective Classes*

## **Desktop Publishing**

Prerequisites: Computer Applications

1/2 credit

Students will learn to produce professional looking documents such as letters, memos, brochures, advertisements, booklets, etc, using desktop publishing software. Graphic design principles will be introduced as well as basic photo editing.

## **Yearbook**

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

1 credit

Students in this class create the MCS annual, the Messenger. Students complete all parts of the project from designing pages to photography, interviews, and writing stories. A high level of individual motivation is necessary as is a desire to develop fluency using computer-publishing programs. Students also participate in the marketing and sale of yearbooks.

## **S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)**

Prerequisite: Computer Applications

1 credit

Refers to the concept of engaging content in these subject areas not in separate classes, but in an integrated, project-based manner, emphasizing student agency and problem solving. This course aims to introduce students to a variety of programming skills as well as hands on problem solving. The course also introduces students to 3D modeling and printing. Students will program games and robots to complete tasks and compete against each other. The course culminates with a student-directed final project in which they choose a topic covered in class to study further and create their own project which they will share with others at a final STEM fair.

## Science

### *Required Classes*

#### **Physical Science**

1 credit

This class is offered alternating years for Freshman and Sophomores. We begin the year with a semester of Astronomy. Then, during the spring semester, we cover Physical Science which lays the groundwork for both Chemistry and Physics covering topics ranging from energy, work and mechanics, to matter and atoms.

#### **Biology**

Prerequisite: Physical Science

1 Credit

This class is offered alternating years for Freshman and Sophomores. Biology addresses many life science topics including ecology, cell structures and function, genetics, along with the study of organisms from all various kingdoms.

### *Elective Classes*

#### **Chemistry**

Prerequisite: Biology

1 credit

Chemistry is often called “the central science” as it is the foundation for many other branches of scientific study. This class covers data analysis, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, the mole, stoichiometry, states of matter, equilibrium, and acids and bases, among others.

#### **Animal Science/Plant Science**

Prerequisite: Biology

1 credit

AgriScience will be introducing animal science concepts in the fall and plant science in the spring. During the first semester, we will be covering basic animal biology, nutrition and feeding, breeds and breeding systems, as well as animal health. In the spring semester, we will be learning about plant reproduction, growth, overall health as well as soils. We will also be incorporating a number of field trips to area farms and businesses to observe the agriculturally based economy in our own community.

#### **Physics**

Prerequisite: Biology

1 credit

Physics is known as the “basic science” as it explores the nature of things around us. This class addresses the board area of mechanics, which includes linear and projectile motion, Newton’s Laws, momentum, circular motion and universal gravitation in the first semester. Sound, light, electricity and magnetism are topics covered during the second semester.

## Social Studies

### *Required Classes*

#### **World History**

1 credit

World History is the study of past civilizations and historically changing events. The study covers Early Period: Middle Ages, Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration, and Growth of Absolute Monarchies; then to the 18th, 19th and 20th Centuries: French Revolution, World War I, World War II, and the Cold War. Throughout each of these, the life of a Christian and their perspective on the factors of history and today will be examined. These studies are examined by the use of homework, quizzes, projects, and tests to look at many unique aspects of historical life.

#### **U.S. History**

Prerequisite: World History

1 credit

U.S. History is the study of the development of the United States from its exploration and colonization to the present. The course includes a study of cultural changes, mysteries or scandals, military events of historical significance, the physical growth of boundaries, and the Christian growth or decline of our country. Most importantly, as a Christian, a person needs to evaluate an American perspective on life and what we can specifically learn to our own spiritual growth. At the end of this study, as Christians, historians, and scholars, life should be analyzed on its political, geographical, and cultural aspects on us and the World.

#### **Principles of Democracy**

Prerequisite: U.S. History

1 credit

Principles of Democracy looks at the origins of democracy and the American system of government. Topics include the basics of a federal system, the election process, congressional structure, power and law making. The executive and judicial branches are covered during the second semester, along with important court cases, constitutional amendments, and the issues of civil rights and liberties.

### *Elective Classes*

#### **Economics**

Micro Economics: First Semester

Macro Economics: Second Semester

1/2 credit (grades 10–12) per semester: Total 1 credit

Economics includes the study of choices of individuals and large entities, economic structures, the theory of supply and demand, market structure, investments, macroeconomics, and resources for the formation of business.

## Other Electives

### **Teacher's Aide**

Prerequisite: Sophomore class standing on track for graduation requirements with counselor approval

1/4 credit per semester

A student may serve as a teacher's aide. The student must agree to be in the teacher's classroom every day at the scheduled time. The student must let the teacher know if s/he will be absent. This credit will be on a pass/fail basis as determined by the supervising teacher.

### **Theatre**

1/2 credit per semester

Theatre is a semester-long course in which students read and watch a variety of theatrical productions and genres. Acting is not a primary focus of the course, but students will have the opportunity to practice some acting. While students in the Theatre class are not required to take part in the MCS Spring Play, it is strongly encouraged, as the Theatre class does help with some of the production details (costumes, props, etc.)

### **Mythology**

1/2 credit

Mythology courses introduce students to the origins and meaning of myths, including how cultures use myths to explain natural or social phenomena. Students will explore the major themes, stories, characters, and archetypes present in the mythologies of several different cultures.

### **World Building**

1/2 credit

Science Fiction and Creative Writing are meshed to become the backbone for creating an imaginative world.

### **Online Classes**

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior in good standing on track for graduation

1/2 credit per semester

Online classes are available to MCS to expand our curriculum offerings. Christian Schools International is our preferred provider for these online classes. All courses must be provided by an approved provider. Approved providers must be accredited by one of the following agencies: CSI, ACSI, Cognia, OPIMT. All courses selected must be requested through the school counselor. Costs for online courses are the sole responsibility of the student and parent.

## **Work Release**

Prerequisite: Senior in good standing on track for graduation.

1/2 credit per semester

Established to help students increase their opportunities to enter high-skilled, high-wage careers after graduation or explore different career paths. The goal is to prepare all students for post-secondary education, careers and citizenship. SENIORS only will be allowed to enroll in the program during the last period of the school day (additional periods with administrative approval). Students must work at least the same number of hours Monday-Friday as they miss from school each week. Students cannot be compensated for these hours worked. Students will receive a P/F grade for the class.

<h2><b>Senior Project</b></h2>
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*Senior project is a required class*

## **Senior Project**

Prerequisite: Senior Standing

1/2 credit

The Senior Project is the culminating event of each senior's educational experience at MCS. The purpose of this year-long project is to demonstrate the knowledge gained and maturity achieved during a student's high school career. Each senior will have the opportunity to choose a personal area of study and then use their talents, skills, and creativity in order to demonstrate their ability to plan, think, and write with insight and discernment, speak in public, meet deadlines, and work with others - all within a Christian worldview. Students will receive a P/F grade for the class.





## **Contacts**

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