First Baptist Christian School
8th GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Subject: Bible
Textbook(s): Bible Truths B: The Story of the Old Testament (BJU Press)
- Covers Old Testament history from Creation through the formation of Israel and the era of the kings to the captivity and return.
- Asks critical-thinking questions about Bible and textbook readings
- Supports biblical-worldview thinking by explaining how Creation-Fall-Redemption constitutes the narrative of the Bible
- Special "Ketuvim" sections cover Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon
- Bible memory verses

Assessment: Written memory verse evaluation, quizzes, unit tests
Additional Activities: Chapel on Wednesdays, Class chapel presentation

Subject: Literature
Textbook(s): Gold text (ACSI-Mosdos Press), Tangerine, The Merchant of Venice
- Oral and silent reading
- Anthology of 8-12 short stories, 15-20 poetry selections, a drama selection, and 4 complete novels
- Recognizing plot, defining character, exploring setting, point of view, understanding theme
- Poetic diction, images, sound, patterns, form, theme, lyric poetry

Assessment: Vocabulary tests, unit tests, comprehension quizzes, literature analysis papers, book reports (2/term), homework
Additional Activities: Field trip to theater

Subject: Language
Textbook(s): English Writing and Grammar 8 (BJU Press)
- Parts of speech (and verbals): review of all from grade 7 plus the following new material: pronoun-relative; verb-progressive tense, passive voice; conjunction-correlative; verbals-participle, infinitive, gerund, verbal phrases with modifiers, functions as different parts of speech
- Sentence structure: review of all from grade 7 plus the following new material: dependent clause-adjective clause
- Mechanics: capitalization; punctuation; spelling
- Usage: review of all from grade 7
- Writing skills: review of all from grade 7 plus the following new material: essay-thesis statement, outlining; introductory and concluding paragraphs
- Examples of writing projects: narrative, writing process, persuasive writing, research paper
- Study and reference skills: review of all from grade 7 plus the following new material: dictionary-usage label

Assessment: Weekly quizzes, unit tests, writing units, daily grammar exercises, homework
Additional Activities: Speech assessment

Subject: Vocabulary/Spelling
Textbook(s): None - word lists developed in conjunction with literature curriculum
- Vocabulary lessons
- Weekly spelling lessons

Assessment: Weekly tests, homework, Quizlet

Subject: Science

Textbook(s): Physical Science textbook and lab manual (ACSI Purposeful Design)

- Matter: Introduction to physical science; composition of matter; nature of matter; atomic structure and the periodic table; chemical bonds
- Types of Substances: Metals, nonmetals and metalloids, organic compounds; other useful materials
- Interactions of Matter: Solutions; chemical reactions; acids, bases and salts
- Matter in Motion: Forces and motion; work and energy; types of machines
- Energy at Work: Thermal energy; waves; sound; light; nuclear energy; energy resources
- Electricity and Magnetism: electricity; magnetism

Assessment: Chapter quizzes/tests, projects, binder organization, class participation, homework, Quizlet

Additional Activities: Field trips

Subject: Math

Textbook(s): Pre-Algebra B (Prentice Hall)

- Solving equations and inequalities
  - Solving two-step equations
  - Solving multi-step equations
  - Multi-step equations with fractions and decimals
  - Solving equations with variables on both sides
  - Solving two-step inequalities
  - Transforming formulas
- Linear functions and graphing
  - Relations and functions
  - Equations with two variables
  - Slope and y-intercept
  - Writing rules for linear functions
  - Scatter plots
  - Solving and graphing systems of linear equations
- Spatial thinking
  - Points, lines, and planes
  - Angle relationships and parallel lines
  - Classifying polygons
  - Congruence
  - Circles
  - Constructions
  - Translations
  - Symmetry and reflections
  - Rotations
- Area and volume
  - Area of parallelograms, triangles, trapezoids, circles, prisms, cylinders
  - Surface area of pyramids, cones, and spheres
  - Volume of prisms, cylinders, pyramids, cones, and spheres
- Right triangles in Algebra
  - Square roots and irrational numbers
  - Pythagorean theorem
  - Distance and midpoint formulas
  - Special right triangles
  - Sine/cosine/tangent ratios
  - Angles of elevation and depression
- Data Analysis and Probability
  - Frequency tables, line plots and histograms
  - Box-and-whisker plots
  - Using graphs to persuade
  - Counting outcomes and theoretical probability
  - Independent and dependent events
  - Permutations and combinations
  - Experimental probability
  - Random samples and surveys
- Nonlinear Functions and Polynomials
  - Patterns and sequences
  - Graphing nonlinear functions
  - Exponential growth and decay
  - Polynomials
  - Adding and subtracting polynomials
  - Multiplying a polynomial by a monomial
  - Multiplying binomials

Assessment: Chapter quizzes/tests, homework

Subject: Advanced Math
Textbook(s): Algebra I (Prentice Hall)

- Variables, Function Patterns and Graphs
  - Using variables
  - Exponents and order of operations
  - Exploring real numbers
  - Patterns and functions
  - Scatter plots
  - Mean, median, mode and range
- Rational Numbers
  - Adding and subtracting rational numbers
  - Multiplying and dividing rational numbers
  - Distributive property
  - Properties of numbers
  - Theoretical and experimental probability
  - Probability of compound events
- Solving Equations
  - Solving two-step equations
  - Solving multi-step equations
  - Equations with variables on both sides
  - Ratio and proportion
  - Proportions and similar figures
  - Equations and problem solving
  - Percent of change
  - Finding and estimating square roots
  - Pythagorean theorem
- Solving Inequalities
  - Inequalities and their graphs
  - Solving inequalities using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
  - Solving multi-step inequalities
  - Compound inequalities
  - Absolute value equations and inequalities
- Linear Equations and Their Graphs
  - Rate of change and slope
  - Slope-intercept form
  - Applying linear functions
  - Standard form
  - Point-slope form and writing linear equations
  - Parallel and perpendicular lines
  - Scatter plots and equations of lines
  - Graphing absolute value equations
- Systems of Equations and Inequalities
  - Solving systems by graphing
  - Solving systems using substitution
  - Solving systems using elimination
  - Applications of linear systems
  - Linear inequalities
  - Systems of linear inequalities
- Exponents and Exponential Functions
  - Zero and negative exponents
  - Scientific notation
  - Multiplication and division properties of exponents
  - Geometric sequences
  - Exponential functions
  - Exponential growth and decay
- Polynomials and Factoring
  - Adding and subtracting polynomials
  - Multiplying and factoring
  - Multiplying binomials
  - Factoring trinomials
  - Factoring by grouping
- Quadratic Equations and Functions
  - Exploring quadratic graphs
  - Quadratic functions
  - Solving quadratic equations
  - Factoring to solve quadratic equations
  - Completing the square
  - Using the quadratic formula
  - Using the discriminant
  - Choosing a linear, quadratic or exponential model
- Radical Expressions and Equations
  - Simplifying radicals
  - Operations with radical expressions
  - Solving radical equations
  - Graphing square root functions
  - Trigonometric ratios
  - Angles of elevations and depression
- Rational Expressions and Functions
  - Graphing rational functions
  - Simplifying rational expressions
  - Multiplying and dividing rational expressions
  - Dividing polynomials
  - Adding and subtracting rational expressions
  - Solving rational equations
  - Counting methods and permutations
  - Combinations

Assessment: Chapter quizzes/tests, homework

Subject: History
Textbook(s): The American Republic-text and work text (BJU Press)

- Geography: geographic development of the United States through land acquisition; profiles of major geographic regions
- History: introduction to the history of the nation
- Government: Republican form of government under the Constitution, election process
- Economics: development and effects of inventions and industries
- Religion: influence of Christianity on American history
- Culture: interaction of people, ideas, and culture in America

Assessment: Chapter quizzes/tests, maps/charts, workbook pages, research paper, homework
Additional Activities: Field trips

Subject: Computers (45 minutes/2x week)
Software: Microsoft Office, Paint, Techno Kids, Google Chrome, Typing Club

- Basic computer operation; identification of hardware
- Basic of operating system
- Increase proficiency of typing/keyboarding skills
- Develop proficiency in word processing skills - formatting, graphics, business letters
- Develop proficiency in Powerpoint, create custom slideshows
- Develop proficiency in Excel - formulas, graphing
- Develop proficiency in Publisher - brochure
- Strengthen basics of Access - databases

Subject: Gym (45 minutes/week)

Subject: Electives (90 minutes/week)

- Select from art, music/drama, school service, language/math help
- Other selections vary by term according to volunteer availability