

## Year 1: Course Descriptions

### **World Geography**

This World Geography course provides students with a chronological overview of geography based upon the history of exploration, discovery, and mapmaking, starting with ancient cultures and ending with the exploration of the polar regions. As part of this course, students examine archaeological reconstructions and maps of places from the past; study the routes and discoveries of famous explorers; become familiar with various people, places, environments, and cultures; learn about methods and tools geographers use in research; and locate ancient, archaeological, architectural, natural, and technological wonders. Students also create a map of the world from memory to gain geographic knowledge as they retell the history of mapmaking, starting with the cartography of Greece and ending with the mapping of Antarctica. Students earn 1 full-year credit in World Geography upon completion of this course.

### **World Religion & Cultures**

This World Religion & Culture's course provides students with an overview of 8 of the world's major religions, including Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Shinto, Islam, and Christianity. Students learn about the important beliefs, practices, and rituals in each religion and become acquainted with the basic answers each religion gives to life's fundamental questions. As students compare the religions of the world and wrestle with the question, "But Don't All Religions Lead to God?" they learn to engage people of other faiths, while better understanding their own Christian faith. An understanding of the ways in which values, traditions, and religious beliefs are reflected in various cultures, helps students gain a better understanding of their own culture. Students earn 1/2 credit in World Religion & Cultures upon completion of this course.

### **Bible: Scripture-Based Spiritual Growth**

This Scripture-based Spiritual Growth course provides a unique synthesis of thoughtful Bible study, Scripture memorization, consistent prayer, and global evangelism awareness to lead students into a deeper and more fulfilling relationship with God. This non-denominationally Protestant Bible Study topically covers selected areas of theology, Godly relationships, and Christian living. Students are challenged to discover and apply Biblical principles, to seek and reflect a Christlike attitude, and to develop a more deeply rooted faith. Students earn 1 full-year credit in Bible: Scripture-based Spiritual Growth upon completion of this course.

### **Foreign Language: Spanish I**

This Spanish I course is designed to introduce students to the Spanish language. This course emphasizes simple vocabulary, basic grammar and syntax, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, translate, and understand the language at a basic level. Students also practice pronunciation skills utilizing online recordings that feature a native speaker. Students earn ½ credit in Spanish I upon completion of this course. **Note:** Students can wait to list Spanish I as a full credit on their transcript instead after completing the last half of the Spanish I credit in the *World History* Guide. Otherwise, students may list ½ credit of Spanish I for the *World Geography* Guide and ½ credit of Spanish I for the *World History* Guide on their transcript. Either option will work.

### **Logic**

This logic course teaches students to recognize occurrences of poor or incorrect reasoning and detect flawed arguments frequently found in editorials, commercials,

speeches, advertisements, comics, newspapers, journals, and other media. Students must utilize logic and critical thinking as they identify fallacies of irrelevance, fallacies of presumption, and fallacies of clarity. Students learn to craft accurate statements, avoid fallacies in their own reasoning, and present their views carefully through the use of logical arguments. Students earn 1/2 credit in Logic upon completion of this course.

### **English I: Fundamentals of Literature (Girl Set Description)**

This English I course enables students to develop critical standards for evaluating short stories, excerpts, essays, prose, poetry, classic novels, and plays. The foundational elements of conflict, character, theme, point of view, structure, and tone are studied in works of recognized literary merit. Students also enrich their understanding of metaphor, irony, syntax, dialect, rhyme scheme, allusion, allegory, hyperbole, and more. Classic works including *A Lantern in Her Hand*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Little Women*, and others are read and studied. Students write compositions including literary analysis, personal, persuasive, expository, and compare and contrast essays, as well as a research paper. Students earn 1 full-year credit in English I upon completion of this course.

### **English I: Fundamentals of Literature (Boy Set Description)**

This English I course enables students to develop critical standards for evaluating short stories, excerpts, essays, prose, poetry, classic novels, and plays. The foundational elements of conflict, character, theme, point of view, structure, and tone are studied in works of recognized literary merit. Students also enrich their understanding of metaphor, irony, syntax, dialect, rhyme scheme, allusion, allegory, hyperbole, and more. Classic works including *Shane*, *Treasure Island*, *Ragged Dick*, *Men of Iron*, *Captains Courageous*, and others are read and studied. Students write compositions including personal, persuasive, expository, and compare and contrast essays, as well as a research paper. Students earn 1 full-credit in English I upon completion of this course.

### **Integrated Physics & Chemistry with Lab**

This course integrates the disciplines of physics and chemistry at the introductory level. Topics studied include: matter, atomic structure, Periodic Table, compounds and bonding, solutions, chemical equations, acids and bases, Newton's Laws, momentum, velocity, acceleration, force and motion, waves, mechanical energy, work energy, machines, thermal energy, power sources, electricity, circuits, magnetism, and more. The focus is upon the people, concepts, and principles of chemistry and physics. Students conduct 35 laboratory activities as an integral part of this course to reinforce concepts, gain experience in making inferences and predictions, collect data, and use scientific problem solving to draw conclusions. Students earn 1 full-year credit in Integrated Physics & Chemistry with Lab upon completion of this course.

### **Algebra I (suggested math option)**

This Algebra I course includes the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations. Students earn 1 full-year credit in Algebra I upon completion of this course.