

2023-2024 High School *Course Catalog*

Engaging. Nurturing. Transforming.



**EASTERN CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL**

———— Course Catalog ————
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EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Mission Statement

By providing an excellent academic curriculum, offering a variety of extra-curricular activities, and assembling a caring, culturally diverse community, we, with support of parents and local churches, empower students from Christian families to develop their gifts within the context of a Reformed Christian worldview so that they can act as Christ's transforming agents in a global society.

Core Values

In pursuing the character of Christ, we will...

Seek Truth

Serve Others

Embrace Community

Exhibit Compassion

Develop Responsibility

Strive for Excellence

GRADUATE PROFILE

Utilizing Biblically informed inquiry and strong academic knowledge, an Eastern Christian graduate thinks critically, exhibits curiosity, and develops the discernment that enables him/her to confidently and intentionally strive for excellence in every endeavor.

Having studied the message of Jesus Christ and having experienced models of Christian servanthood in community, the Eastern Christian graduate develops a healthy self-image. Recognizing and responding to the will of God, and seeing in humanity the image of God, the graduate embraces diversity, exhibits compassion, offers respect, and is forgiving and open to others.

The Eastern Christian graduate is prepared to be a person of Christian vision and influence and seeks to contribute cooperatively and responsibly to God's mission of renewing all of creation.

The purpose of this guide is to provide a comprehensive listing of the required and elective courses offered. Students, with the assistance of parents, teachers, deans, and the college & career counselor, should choose a program of courses that will adequately prepare them to meet their future goals.

All students are required to complete basic coursework that prepares them to enter college, technical/vocational schools, or the workforce. Students with strong academic skills, a high interest in schoolwork, a willingness to take on demanding assignments, and who wish to apply to competitive college programs should choose a more challenging academic course load.

Graduation Requirements

A. To receive an ECHS diploma, a student must successfully complete a minimum of 135 academic credits and 2 Faith in Action credits. Full block courses (courses which meet every day) are 5 credits each; half block courses (courses which meet every other day) are 2.5 credits each. Study hall receives no credit.

B. Required Courses for an Eastern Christian High School Diploma:

- 4 English courses
- 4 Social Studies courses
- 3 Mathematics courses
- 3 Laboratory Science courses
- 1 World Language course
- 1 course of Visual Arts OR 2 courses of Music
- 1 Physical Education course is required each year of attendance
- 1 Bible course is required each year of attendance
- 1 Career & Technical Education course
- 1 Financial Literacy course
- 50 Hours of Faith in Action: 5-10 hours of service to EC; 40-45 hours of service to others

Grading Scale

Assignments, quizzes, tests, reports and projects are evaluated according to the following grading scale:

Grade	Percent	Grade Points
A+	97-100	4.00
A	93-96	4.00
A-	90-92	3.67
B+	87-89	3.33
B	83-86	3.00
B-	80-82	2.67
C+	77-79	2.33
C	73-76	2.00
C-	70-72	1.67
D+	67-69	1.33
D	65-66	1.00
F	Below 65	
I	Incomplete	

Choosing Wisely

As you decide which courses to take, you should plan carefully and wisely. Here is our advice based on past experience:

1. Think carefully about your gifts, strengths, weaknesses, needs, and your long-term goals.

You are planning for your future. Though being with your friends is desirable, don't let your social wishes take precedence over what's best for you academically.

2. Seek the advice of parents, teachers, academic and college counselor, and your dean. In the Academic and College Counseling Office, you can:

- Take career inventories which measure your strengths, weaknesses, personality, and interests. These inventories, in consultation with your academic and college counselor, can be used to assist you in selecting the career direction that would be most suitable for you.
- Find information about occupations and colleges. This often includes information about prerequisite courses or appropriate training programs to adequately prepare you for your desired career path. For example, nursing schools often require at least 4 courses in science (including biology and chemistry). Engineering schools may require chemistry, physics, and 4 courses in mathematics. Be sure to do your own research and consult with the academic and college counselor.

3. The Course Selection Form, used in cooperation with a counselor, helps you track and discover what courses you are required to take and what electives you may choose. As you browse this catalog, take note of which courses have prerequisites, or are offered only every other year. Consider a sequence of courses for several years in advance, and plan carefully.

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- 4. Your education should stretch you in new ways so you can find out what gifts God has given you and where He may be leading you to serve Him.** There is room in everyone's schedule to take courses beyond those that we require. We encourage students who can to take a full course load if possible.
- 5. To make course changes, you need permission from your academic and college counselor and an approval form signed by your parents.** If a course is dropped within two weeks of the beginning of the semester, there will be no indication of the dropped course on the transcript. However, upon joining the new course you would be required to complete the work missed up to that point. A course dropped after two weeks would be indicated on your transcript as a withdrawal. A course dropped between two to five weeks may only be dropped to add a study hall, and the transcript will show the dropped course. After five weeks you may no longer drop a course.
- 6. If you fail a required course, you must repeat it during the next semester or the next year, or retake the course in an accredited, ECHS-approved credit recovery program.** Core graduation requirements should be completed before the start of the next academic year. Failures are recorded on the transcript and are reflected in the GPA.

KEY

ODD YEAR or EVEN YEAR

Most courses are offered each year at ECHS. However, there are several that are only offered every other year. Courses offered during ODD YEARS are available during the 2023-2024 school year. Courses offered on EVEN YEARS are available during the 2024-2025 school year.

HALF CREDIT or FULL CREDIT

All courses are full block, 5 credit courses, except those indicated as HALF CREDIT which are 2.5 credit courses offered every other day. Band, Choir, and Orchestra are HALF CREDIT courses that meet during SOAR and earn 2.5 credits per year.

PROJECT ACCELERATION (PA)

Project Acceleration is a dual enrollment program with Seton Hall University which enables students to begin the challenge of taking college courses while in high school. Courses that have been approved are labeled PA in the course catalog. Students selecting these courses receive high school credit for the course from Eastern Christian High School and also have the option to receive college credit from Seton Hall University. Registration for the Seton Hall credits occurs during the first several weeks of the semester and requires a fee to be paid to Seton Hall University. The course expectations and requirements remain the same for all students regardless of whether or not they are seeking credit from Seton Hall University. The credit received from Seton Hall University is transferable to many colleges across the country. In some instances, courses may even fulfill core degree requirements, possibly allowing students to graduate from college sooner.

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Any grade earned is applied to both your Eastern Christian and Seton Hall transcripts. However, a “C” is generally considered to be the lowest passing grade for transfer purposes. Please be advised that when students apply to college, they must request a transcript directly from Seton Hall University in order for their Project Acceleration credits to be received and reviewed by the prospective college. More information is available at the Project Acceleration website. <https://www.shu.edu/project-acceleration/>

Current Project Acceleration Courses and Credit Value

Advanced Biology (3 credits)	Advanced Composition (3 credits)
Anatomy & Physiology (4 credits)	Calculus (4 credits)
Calculus 2 (4 credits)	Chemistry Honors (3 credits)
English 3 Honors (3 credits)	English 4 Honors (3 credits)
Physics Honors (4 credits)	US History 1 Honors (3 credits)
US History 2 Honors (3 credits)	

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY (NHS)

In order to be eligible for membership in the National Honor Society, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75. In addition, students must enroll and receive credit in at least two honors or advanced level courses in both their junior and senior years. Courses that are considered honors or advanced level are identified in the course catalog as NHS. In addition to the academic standards, students are evaluated in the areas of service, leadership, and Christian character.

HONOR ROLL

At the end of each quarter, students who do consistently good work will be listed on the school's honor roll.

The requirements for honor roll status are as follows:

Honor Roll: A minimum of two As and the balance of grades Bs. No Cs, Ds, Fs or Incompletes

High Honor Roll: All As and no Incompletes

Eligibility for Honors Courses & Appeal Process

Eastern Christian encourages students to take a mixture of College Prep, Honors, and Dual Enrollment courses on a subject-by-subject basis based on the capabilities of the student and a desire to position students for academic success.

To be eligible for an Honors course, a student must be recommended by the instructor and have a minimum 93 average in the prior College Prep course or 83 average in the prior Honors course at the time of recommendation. Some courses may have additional requirements as indicated in the course description.

Current 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students who miss the prerequisite grade for an Honors course or who are not recommended by their teacher may choose to submit an appeal under the following conditions:

- The student finishes the prior College Prep course with a final grade of 90 or above
- The student finishes the prior Honors course with a final grade of 80 or above

Students may only submit one appeal per year. Appeals will be reviewed by department chairs and school administration.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG
2023 – 2024

PATHWAYS AND COURSE SEQUENCES

	SUBJECT	REGULAR (working toward a diploma or 2-year college)		ACADEMIC (working toward a 4-year college or university)		ACCELERATED (working toward a competitive 4-year college or university)	
9	English	English 9	5.0	English 9 CP	5.0	English 9 Honors	5.0
		Science	Earth Science	5.0	Earth Science	5.0	Earth Science Honors and Principles of Research (STEM)
	Mathematics	Integrated Algebra & Geometry 1	5.0	Integrated Algebra & Geometry 2 and Algebra 1 OR Algebra 1 and Geometry	10.0	Geometry Honors	5.0
	History	World History CP	5.0	World History CP	5.0	World History 1 Honors	5.0
	PE/Health	PE/Health 1	2.5	PE/Health 1	2.5	PE/Health 1	2.5
	Bible	Biblical Theology 1	2.5	Biblical Theology 1	2.5	Biblical Theology 1	2.5
	Other (Fine Arts, Languages, Electives)	Career & Technical Education	5.0	Career & Technical Education	5.0	Career & Technical Education	5.0
		Elective - 1	5.0	Elective - 1	5.0	Electives - 1	5.0
	Total credits		37.5		40.0		40.0
10	English	English 10	5.0	English 10 CP	5.0	English 10 Honors	5.0
		Science	Biology	5.0	Biology	5.0	Biology Honors
	Mathematics	Integrated Algebra & Geometry 2	5.0	Geometry and Algebra 2 OR Algebra 2 and Math Analysis	10.0	Algebra 2 Honors	5.0
		TESS	2.5				
	History	World History CP	5.0	World History CP	5.0	World History 2 Honors	5.0
	PE/Health	PE/Health 2	2.5	PE/Health 2	2.5	PE/Health 2	2.5
	Bible	Biblical Theology 2	2.5	Biblical Theology 2	2.5	Biblical Theology 2	2.5
	Other (Fine Arts, Languages, Electives)	Electives - 2	10.0	Electives - 2	10.0	Electives - 3	15.0
	Total credits		37.5		40.0		40.0
11	English	English 11	5.0	English 11 CP	5.0	English 11 Honors	5.0
		Science	Principles of Chemistry	5.0	Chemistry	5.0	Chemistry Honors
	Mathematics	Algebra 1 and Geometry No Proof	10.0	Math Analysis or Precalculus	5.0	Precalculus and Calculus 1	10.0
	History	US History 1	5.0	US History 1	5.0	U.S. History 1 Honors	5.0
	PE/Health	PE/Health 3	2.5	PE/Health 3	2.5	PE/Health 3	2.5
	Bible	Biblical Theology 3 or Bible & Worship	2.5	Biblical Theology 3 or Bible & Worship	2.5	Biblical Theology 3 or Bible & Worship	2.5
	Other (Fine Arts, Languages, Electives)	Personal Financial Literacy Basic	5.0	Personal Financial Literacy	5.0	Economics & Finance	5.0
		TESS	2.5	Electives - 2	10.0	Electives - 1	5.0
	Total credits		37.5		40.0		40.0
12	English	English 12	5.0	English 12 CP	5.0	English 12 Honors	5.0
		Science	-	-	Physics	5.0	Physics Honors
	Mathematics	-	-	Precalculus or Calculus 1	5.0	Calculus 2	5.0
	History	US History 2	5.0	US History 2	5.0	U.S. History 2 Honors	5.0
	PE/Health	PE/Health 4	5.0	PE/Health 4	2.5	PE/Health 4	2.5
	Bible	Biblical Theology 4 or Bible & Worship	2.5	Biblical Theology 4 or Bible & Worship	2.5	Biblical Theology 4 or Bible & Worship	2.5
	Other (Fine Arts, Languages, Electives)	Electives - 5	25.0	Electives - 3	25.0	Electives - 3	15.0
	Total credits		40.0		40.0		40.0

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ELECTIVES

Art 1	Cross-Cultural Persepctives & Service	Physics
Advanced Biology	Design Technology 1	Physics Honors
Advanced Ceramics	Drawing	Precalculus
Advanced Composition	Economics & Finance	Principles of Research (STEM)
Advanced Journalism	Essay Workshop	Printing and Design
Advanced Portfolio	Foundational Writing	Psychology
Advanced Topics in Technology	Genocide & Human Behavior	Public Speaking
Anatomy & Physiology	Graphic Design	Robotics
Bible & Worship	Honors Choir	Sculpture
Calculus 1	International Relations	Spanish 2-4
Calculus 2	Journalism	Statistics
Ceramics	Law & Order: An Introduction to Criminal Justice	String Orchestra
Chamber Orchestra	Major Authors	Study Hall
Civics	Mathematical Analysis	TESS
Computer Coding	Orchestra	Video Production
Concert Band	Painting	Web & App Development
Concert Choir	Photography	WINGS
Creative Writing		Yearbook/Publishing

CONCENTRATIONS

Similar to a college major, ECHS Concentrations are a way for students to demonstrate high academic success and passion for a particular field of study. Students may choose a Concentration after their freshman year in high school. If they complete enough electives (with a grade of 80% or higher) and approved co-curricular activities (validated participation) within their chosen field, their transcript will reflect their success within the concentration.

Concentrations are open to all students, and include pathways for students in pursuit of honors credit or not. Students may only select one Concentration.

Each Concentration will culminate in a capstone Senior Portfolio Project. This project will incorporate reflection and application of lessons learned within the chosen field of study.

Humanities CONCENTRATIONS



Concentration Highlights



Available to All
High School
Students



Deeper Exploration
of Passion Subject
Areas



Transcript
Recognition of
Concentration &
Accomplishments



Demonstrate
High Academic
Achievement

Humanities Concentrations

Humanities Concentrations provide a student with an interdisciplinary learning experience that develops conceptual thinking, personal passion, independent research, scholarly excellence, and academic discussion and dialogue. Through the lens of a Reformed Christian worldview, the concentration includes multidisciplinary opportunities to study literature and the arts within the context of historical events that gave rise to them. Ultimately, the graduate has a clearly defined and articulated personal worldview, evident in the Senior Portfolio Project.

All Humanities and Humanities Honors students will choose an area of concentration. **To complete a concentration, students must achieve an 80% or higher in their yearly required Social Studies and English courses, as well as in at least 4 additional courses in their designated concentration area.**



LANGUAGE ARTS

CONCENTRATION

The language arts concentration celebrates the power of the written word. Students will study and create writings in a host of forms. Whether through the pursuit of a published work or an internship in a professional field, students will experience authentic learning that will translate into essential experience as they enter the next phase of their education and career.

Elective Options:

- Foundational Writing
- Essay Workshop
- Advanced Composition*
- Major Author Study
- Creative Writing
- Journalism/Advanced Journalism
- Yearbook/Advanced Yearbook
- ESL
- Writing Workshop ESL
- Applicable WINGS internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**



SOCIAL STUDIES

CONCENTRATION

A concentration in social studies will prepare students to navigate the complexities of our modern world through a rigorous examination of the past. Students will glean lessons from world and American history and apply those lessons to the present. Collaboration, argumentation, research, and critical thinking will all be necessary for successful completion of this concentration.

Elective Options:

- Civics
- Law & Order: An Introduction to Criminal Justice
- Genocide & Human Behavior
- Economics and Finance
- Psychology
- International Relations
- Cross-Cultural Perspectives**
- Applicable WINGS internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.*

Humanities

CONCENTRATIONS



PERFORMING ARTS

CONCENTRATION

The performing arts concentration allows students to pursue their interests in areas such as public speaking, voice or instrumental music, and theater. Through opportunities like speeches, ensemble performances, drama productions, and an internship in a related field, students will learn to perform competently and confidently as image bearers of Christ.

Elective Options:

- Public Speaking
- Concert Band**
- Orchestra**
- Concert Choir**
- Honors Choir**
- Participation in theater productions**
- Participation in Chapel Worship**
- Tri-M Music Honor Society**
- Applicable WINGS internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**



VISUAL ARTS

CONCENTRATION

As image bearers of the Creator, we have been made to create and appreciate beauty. The concentration in visual arts develops the artistic skills and experience needed to enter a variety of fields in the arts. Students can choose from many elective options to pursue their passions and develop new talents.

Elective Options:

- Painting
- Sculpture
- Ceramics/Advanced Ceramics
- Drawing
- Photography
- Print & Design
- Graphic Design
- Advanced Portfolio
- Journalism/Advanced Journalism
- Yearbook/Advanced Yearbook
- Applicable WINGS internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**

**Courses designated as Project Acceleration can be taken for dual enrollment credit through Seton Hall University*

***Music ensembles, 2.5 credit courses, and clubs count as ½ courses toward the 4 course total.*

Applicable clubs, online courses, independent studies, or other activities must be approved in advance by the ACC.

STEM Fields

CONCENTRATIONS

Concentration Highlights



Available to All
High School
Students



Deeper Exploration
of Passion Subject
Areas



Transcript
Recognition of
Concentration &
Accomplishments



Demonstrate
High Academic
Achievement

STEM Fields Concentrations

STEM Fields Concentrations equip students to foster a heart for God and His heart for this world. Through science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, we stand in awe as we investigate the creativity and the complexity of creation, discovering that God reveals himself and wants to be known. We are invited to participate in His creativity as we seek to “set creation free from its bondage to decay” (Romans 8:21). Students use their knowledge of STEM fields to make choices that will bring redemption and restoration to God’s creation.

STEM Fields Concentrations consist of at least 4 courses that are beyond the required coursework, either Honors level or elective choices within the field. **Students must receive an 80% or higher in their core and elective choices within the designated concentration area.**

STEM Fields

CONCENTRATIONS



LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE

CONCENTRATION

Scientific advances have changed our lives innumerable times, and the pace of new discoveries has continued to grow at an exponential rate. A concentration in life & physical science allows students to dive deeply into this rapidly changing field. Students learn the skills and content needed to be successful in the scientific fields and prepare for a life of discovery.

Elective Choices:

- Principles of Research
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Biology Honors
- Advanced Biology
- Chemistry Honors
- Physics/Honors Physics
- Applicable WINGS Internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**



COMPUTER SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

CONCENTRATION

Computer science & technology has consistently been one of the most rapidly growing career fields. This concentration will provide students with the essential skills needed to succeed in today's technological and interconnected world. Students will also receive countless hands-on projects that will allow them to apply their new knowledge and skills in authentic situations.

Elective Options:

- Principles of Research
- Computer Coding
- Robotics
- Web & App Development
- Graphic Design
- Design Technology
- Advanced Topics in Technology
- Video Production
- Applicable WINGS Internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**

STEM Fields

CONCENTRATIONS



MATHEMATICS
CONCENTRATION

Galileo stated that mathematics is the language with which God created the universe. A concentration in mathematics allows students to gain new appreciation for the order of creation and progress quickly through advanced topics in the field. Internships and service opportunities are available to enrich the study of this universal subject.

Elective Options:

- Principles of Research
- Geometry Honors
- Algebra 2 Honors
- Mathematics Analysis
- Precalculus
- Calculus 1
- Calculus 2
- Statistics
- Economics and Finance
- Computer Coding
- Mu Alpha Theta–Math Honor Society**
- Applicable WINGS Internship
- Active participation in related clubs, online courses, or independent studies as approved by the ACC.**

**Courses designated as Project Acceleration can be taken for dual enrollment credit through Seton Hall University*

***Music ensembles, 2.5 credit courses, and clubs count as ½ courses toward the 4 course total.*

Applicable clubs, online courses, independent studies, or other activities must be approved in advance by the ACC.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Arts - Visual Arts and Music

5 Credits of Art or Music are required for graduation.

Art 1 is a prerequisite for all subsequent visual arts courses unless otherwise defined.

Visual Arts

The study of visual arts promotes and encourages a thoughtful and aesthetic response to God's revelation of Himself and His purposes in creation. We welcome and encourage artists at any level to grow in their understanding and skill set while making connections to observation of life as well as developing 'out of the box' thinking.

Students learn how to process critical thinking and use visual communication more intentionally. Students will create engaging content in order to connect emotionally with the audience and influence their behavior.

Likewise, as a school we actively provide opportunities for students to strive for excellence through presenting work both within and outside of our halls through various prestigious competitions.

ART 1

Students in this course explore foundations in art and design with the techniques of drawing, ceramics, painting, design, sculpture, printmaking, emerging digital art making practices, as well as 3D modeling and 3D printing on an introductory level. As the course progresses, students are given slightly more advanced projects that deal with conceptual and compositional issues. Based on the foundation in art and design, students will develop presentation skills to communicate their art works. This will give them power and ownership over their creations. Students also create and display a collaborative, monumental, sculptural work to serve the school community. In addition to creating art, students analyze art styles and related art history, as well as engage with emerging digital based drafting tools. Students learn how to engage in art criticism and discussion. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required. Students are required to do weekly sketchbook assignments. Some research is required.

CERAMICS

This course includes the study of building clay vessels using the three hand-building techniques of pinch, coil, and slab, as well as 'throwing' pots on the pottery wheel. Techniques and methods of producing sculpture from clay and other materials are explored. Intro to the chemistry of glazes is included. Some research is required including the history of ceramics and its multicultural impact. A field trip to a local pottery studio is included with the possibility of an additional museum visit.

ADVANCED CERAMICS

Prerequisite: C or higher in Ceramics

Students explore advanced techniques in the clay building process and wheel throwing, as well as advanced concepts, design theories, and stylistic expression in three-dimensional form. Some research is required, such as exploring the history of Greek pottery, learning about current practices, and studying emerging artisans in the field. A field trip to a local pottery studio is included with the possibility of an additional museum visit.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

In Photography, students are expected to develop talent in and enjoyment of the creative arts. Digital Photography is a one semester specialized course that will provide interested students with insights and experiences in photographic composition, cameras, creative problem solving skills, and the ability to exercise critical judgments. Students will learn elements of design, proper use of technology and equipment, and the creative application of the photographic process.

SCULPTURE (EVEN YEARS)

This course studies sculpture-in-the-round and relief sculpture, focusing on mass, weight, and balance. Students explore various styles and projects in three-dimensional art, covering realism, abstraction, and geometric form in both small and large-scale. Media explored are wood, clay, cardboard, paper, paper maché, found objects, as well as 3D modeling and 3D printing, etc. Students engage in art criticism and reflection, connecting projects to art movements. Students make an artistic impact in the school's community as the class works on a collaborative project serving the school's mission. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required.

PAINTING (ODD YEARS)

Painting includes an exciting exploration of acrylic, oil, and watercolor. Emerging digital art making practices are introduced as well. Students are allowed to choose their favorite medium and take it to its fullest potential. Realism, abstraction, pop art and many more movements are covered as students study the masters of antiquity as well as contemporary and emerging artists. Projects and critiques are placed within the context of art history. Students are involved in at least one large-scale or collaborative project. When opportunity arises we are involved in public murals and set design for ECS's theatrical productions. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required. No matter the skill level, growth is assured as all students are welcome in reflecting the creative nature of our Creator.

DRAWING (EVEN YEARS)

Drawing encourages creative growth, expression, and observation through an exploration of both traditional and contemporary practices. Students refine skills in drawing from life with realistic portraiture, still life, and anatomy studies, while adding to their portfolios drawings from imagination. Various mediums include pencil, charcoal, pen and ink, pastels, and digital-based drafting tools. Emphasis is placed on shading, composition, highlighting, subtleties of tones, texture, positive-negative space observations, and individual and collaborative projects. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required. No matter the skill level, growth is assured as all students are welcome in reflecting the creative nature of our Creator.

PRINTING AND DESIGN (ODD YEARS)

Handmade, mechanical and now digital production have brought images all around us. Printmaking involves creating original works of art that exist as multiples in a set called an edition. Students will enrich their understanding of the elements and principles of design through an introduction to various printmaking techniques including woodblock, linoleum, silkscreen, spray paint stenciling and mono-printing methods. Explore hand-drawn or digital-based designs. We will move from single color to multi-color dynamic designs that can be applied to an artistic print series, bookmaking, clothing, textiles, and other exciting functional items such as T-Shirt designs. Some research is required. Basic Photoshop tools and techniques are covered to enhance designs. Students attend a field trip to an established printmaker, artist, or gallery.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Using the industry standard tools of Adobe Creative Suite such as: Illustrator, Photoshop, and After Effects (as well as online equivalents of those programs) students create dynamic visual materials. Students learn layout skills and acquire the ability to combine visual elements with text information to use creativity not only to design but to also catch the public's attention (posters, t-shirts, flyers, logos, branding campaigns, photo books). Students explore discernment between what the world values and what we as Christians should value and communicate. The course includes current and professional programs and practices. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required.

ADVANCED PORTFOLIO

Prerequisites: B+ in Art 1 and B+ in two other Art courses

Take your artmaking to another level! This course is open to students who would like to advance their art through focused studio time, as well as those considering pursuing art professionally or at the college level. The requirements are handed down by the College Board in order to take the optional portfolio exam, the additional cost of which is the responsibility of the student. In addition to creating a consistent body of work (based on the theme of your choice) as required, this is an opportunity to develop a physical and online portfolio reflecting individual styles and interests. In addition to traditional and emerging art-making skills, basic digital design tools are covered to best prepare students for portfolio presentation. Students are involved in at least one large-scale and collaborative project. There is at least one field trip, and attendance is required.

Music

Music is viewed as a God-given gift to humanity. Music education strives to build skills that steward this gift for God's glory. Music courses are year-long electives and may be taken more than once to fulfill the Arts credit requirement.

CONCERT BAND (HALF CREDIT)

Concert Band is an instrumental ensemble which includes woodwinds, brass and percussion instruments. A minimum of two years of playing experience on a band instrument and proficiency in note reading is required. Membership is based on consistent practice, attitude of service, and commitment to pursue excellence. This year-long course challenges you as a student and a musician. Students are expected to participate in community events, as well as school concerts where attendance is mandatory. Concert Band meets during SOAR four days per week.

CONCERT CHOIR (HALF CREDIT)

Concert Choir is a full-year, non-auditioned ensemble that meets during SOAR four days per week. It is a large ensemble for freshmen through seniors. The Concert Choir studies, rehearses, and performs choral music of different languages and cultures ranging from Gregorian chant to contemporary composers, from sacred choral works to Broadway music. In addition to fall and spring concerts, the Concert Choir participates in Chapel.

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ORCHESTRA (HALF CREDIT)

Orchestra students *who are not also in chorus or band*, participate in both String Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra, each meeting two days a week during SOAR. While these are two distinct music styles with individual performances and curriculum, they are graded as one Orchestra course.

STRING ORCHESTRA

This is a year-long elective which concentrates on music in the string literature (violin, viola, cello, bass) as well as string arrangements of full orchestra repertoire from Baroque to present. A minimum of two years playing experience on a string instrument and proficiency in note reading is required. Opportunity is provided for performance outside of school and for participation in Regional and All-State Orchestra auditions. This course challenges participants as students and musicians. Students are expected to participate in community events, as well as school concerts where attendance is mandatory. Orchestra meets during SOAR two days per week.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

This year-long elective is designed for the full-time orchestra student who does not participate in another performing ensemble. This course concentrates on chamber music repertoire composed for smaller ensembles in the string literature (violin, viola, cello, bass) from Baroque to present. A minimum of two years playing experience on a string instrument and proficiency in note reading is required. Opportunity is provided for performance outside of school and for participation in Regional and All-State Orchestra auditions. This course challenges participants as students and musicians. Students are expected to participate in community events, as well as school concerts where attendance is mandatory. Orchestra meets during SOAR two days per week.

HONORS CHOIR

Eastern Christian Honors Choir (EHC) is a select, audition-based vocal ensemble of about 18 students in grades 10-12. EHC members must participate in Concert Choir for the entire year. EHC meets every other day for one block throughout the entire school year. EHC seeks to nurture and train students in the art and practice of small ensemble singing. As this is an advanced course, students must have knowledge of basic music theory to participate in the group's challenging music studies. EHC members study music theory, sight-singing, and ear training, and complete presentations on composers and performers. Members also study music in other languages, a capella pieces, sacred, contemporary, classical music, and Broadway show tunes. The group focuses on proper vocal technique, breath control, syncopation, intonation, and rhythm for dynamic small group ensemble singing. Members are evaluated based on their active participation in rehearsal and performance, rehearsal etiquette, and their ability to read, write and evaluate music.

EHC is an involved and active ensemble in the community. In addition to two formal concerts at school, the group performs at several other venues throughout the year; this includes some nights, weekends and rare Sunday services. The group also goes on tour every other year. Membership requires a time investment and commitment to participate in the performances.

Biblical Theology

Biblical Theology is required for each year of attendance.

Each course leads students to search for and comprehend key theological ideas that are revealed in a given section of Scripture. Emphasis is placed on inductive reasoning and the use of sound principles of Reformed Bible interpretation.

STORY OF GOD – BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 1 (HALF CREDIT)

The course objective is to provide an introductory understanding of the biblical narrative to enable students to live through a biblical worldview. This is done through a topical study of the themes of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation throughout the Bible. Students will engage in a full study of Genesis in order to see the modern world through God’s perspective.

COVENANTAL LOVE - BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 2 (HALF CREDIT)

The course objective is to provide an introductory understanding of the biblical covenants and sound exegetical study in order to enable students to live through a biblical worldview. This is done through a study of the Old Testament analyzing God’s faithfulness to Israel in order to understand their relationship with God as a life-long journey.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD - BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 3 (HALF CREDIT)

The course objective is to develop each student’s interpretive process through sound exegetical study to enable students to participate in God’s work today. This is done through a study of the New Testament, comparing the life of Jesus and the early church community to the 21st century, in order to develop a practical and biblical guide to living as a participant in God’s Kingdom.

APOLOGETICS - BIBLICAL THEOLOGY 4 (HALF CREDIT)

The course objective is to enable students to understand and explain the Christian journey in the face of difficult questions and alternative perspectives on Christianity that exist in other cultures. Ultimately this course desires to empower each student to represent Christ in their home, their region, and the world through a study of the Early Church in Acts and a comparison of other worldviews to the Christian Faith.

BIBLE & WORSHIP (HALF CREDIT)

Prerequisite: Approved application.

Students grow as followers of Christ, as spiritual leaders, and as thoughtful worship planners. Students are responsible for completing coursework in addition to their work as members of a chapel planning team. Course content includes a survey of Bible passages about the character of God and principles of worship. In class discussion, we seek to apply Biblical understandings of worship in our modern context. A culminating church project involves a visit to an unfamiliar church and reflections on what can be appreciated from the congregation’s worship. Open to juniors and seniors.

CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES & SERVICE (HALF CREDIT)

This elective does not count as a Biblical Theology requirement.

Requirement for all new Spring Break Missions Trip participants.

Prerequisites: Application and \$100 deposit. Students require approval from their dean for trip placement and participation.

Mission opportunities are all around us. Throughout this class students study various global issues that have an impact on the world and how they relate to sharing the gospel of Christ. Also, the concept of service learning is explored through local service projects, building relationships with missionaries, academic content connections, and a mission trip experience.

Practical, hands-on opportunities complement the theological study of missions. Assessments are project and portfolio based. Students are responsible for raising financial support for the mission trip. Guidance on raising support is available and students journey through the year with individual EC faculty and staff mentors.

Business And Technology

Career & Technical Education, taken freshman year, as well as Personal Financial Literacy or Economics, taken junior or senior year, are graduation requirements.

Business and Technology courses are committed to glorifying God and learning about his world through the study of applied science, math and technical training.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

This comprehensive seminar assists freshmen in transitioning from middle school to high school. With a focus on acclimating to new academic and social environments, students practice skills necessary to succeed in high school and the years beyond: building character through leadership, technology, goal setting, time management, oral presentation, database research, study habits, job preparation, and preliminary college and career planning. Required course in freshman year.

PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY

This course is designed to teach students personal financial literacy. Students learn skills, resource availability, and strategies that promote financial responsibility in areas of financial planning, career selection, savings, investments, and charitable giving in the global economy. Students also engage in analysis of economics, long-term financial planning, career choice, and civic financial responsibility, including risk management and insurance. Students learn skills that are critical to creating financial health in the 21st-century global economy and understanding God's word regarding stewarding resources. Required course in junior or senior year.

ECONOMICS & FINANCE – NHS

Prerequisite: B+ in Algebra 2

This course explores economic systems, the impact of governmental financial policies, and the effects of the exchange rate. Students investigate the role of a firm in typical and atypical market settings. Students also gain an understanding of the impact of international trade and how each nation affects each other in a global society. This course moves at an accelerated pace and includes math intensive units, research, and rigorous work. This course covers personal finance topics and satisfies the Personal Financial Literacy graduation requirement in junior or senior year.

COMPUTER CODING

Students explore what many computer experts are calling one of the most important skills a student can learn in high school, as understanding code opens up many opportunities in STEAM fields. In this course, students learn the powerful Python language used by programming professionals and universities every day. This course focuses on solving problems using logical and systematic planning. No coding experience is necessary to join this course.

WEB & APP DEVELOPMENT

Students in this course study four major components of the mobile and web technology fields: web page design through the HTML and CSS languages, social media tools and strategies for companies, website automation using Content Management Systems, and mobile app development using MIT's Mobile App Developer.

VIDEO PRODUCTION

With the myriad of streaming services, social media, and advertising, content is pushed at us every day. How do we both create and consume this content as Christians? This class teaches professional practices in video shooting, editing, and producing. Students study multiple considerations that go into every shot of a video to create professional-looking films that are entered into multiple local and state-wide film competitions. Students also learn film analysis, media literacy, and advertising persuasive techniques to increase their ability to wisely consume content.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

This course introduces computer-aided design (CAD), rapid prototyping and 3D printing, and construction projects using power tools. Projects include creating unique redesigns of everyday items, building the set for the school dramas, and many architectural and engineering scenarios (including cars, apparel, floorplans, personal innovations, interior design, etc). Students work on computer-based and hands-on projects, taking into consideration 21st century workplace goals such as collaboration, problem solving and communicating to target audiences.

ROBOTICS

Students develop skills in mechanical design and construction as they work in teams to build simple and complex robotic devices. They explore the use of robotics in modern business and industry and examine how robotic devices are affecting and shaping culture. Students apply concepts learned in Physical Science and Physics courses to mechanical devices. Students do not need to be involved in the EC Robotics Club to take this class.

ADVANCED TOPICS IN TECHNOLOGY

Prerequisite: B+ in the technology course of your intended topic of study and teacher recommendation.

Advanced Topics in Technology allows students to take their knowledge to the next level by providing opportunities to design individual projects in coding, video production, 3D printing, app development, robotics and more. Opportunities are limited only by student creativity and skill. Interested students will be asked to propose a topic of study; examples and more information are available from technology teachers.

English

20 Credits of English are required for graduation.

The English curriculum is designed to encourage our students to see themselves as literate, articulate and creative individuals designed by God to appreciate, enjoy and transform our world through written communication.

CORE ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9 / ENGLISH 9 CP

This is a study of the cultural worldviews through various genres of literature: mythology, short story, poetry, drama, and novel. The course begins with the literature of Ancient Greece and continues through that of modern day. Instruction in vocabulary, literary devices, oral presentation, and essay development are also included in the curriculum. Major texts include *The Odyssey*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The House on Mango Street*.

EASTERN CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG
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ENGLISH 9 HONORS

This course covers the worldviews and literature of early civilizations through the Renaissance. Advanced reading and writing skills are emphasized. Placement is by approved application or recommendation of the English Department. Texts may include *The Odyssey*, Greek Drama, Roman Poetry, *Beowulf*, *Dante's Inferno*, and several Shakespeare plays.

ENGLISH 10 / ENGLISH 10 CP

Chronologically, the course begins in the Elizabethan era with Shakespeare, continues through the Romantic and Victorian periods, and culminates in the modern age. A variety of poetry, dramas, and novels are incorporated into the study of vocabulary, literary devices, oral presentations, and writing skills. Texts may include *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, Metaphysical and Romantic Poetry, *A Modest Proposal*, *Great Expectations*, and *Animal Farm*.

ENGLISH 10 HONORS

This interdisciplinary course completes a two-year English Honors sequence. The course covers literature, culture, and politics of the Renaissance to the current era.

ENGLISH 11 / ENGLISH 11 CP

This course is a survey of American worldviews as represented in American Literature. Concentration is on major authors and poets from the 17th century to the 20th century. This course emphasizes vocabulary through the study of Greek and Latin roots. It also includes a study of analytical writing with emphasis on writing a literary analysis research paper. A passing grade on the research paper is a graduation requirement. Texts may include *The Scarlet Letter*, the poetry of Whitman and Dickinson, *The Great Gatsby*, short stories and poems from Edgar Allan Poe and *The Crucible*.

ENGLISH 11 HONORS – PA, NHS

The course is a survey of American life and worldview from the 17th to the 20th century integrating culture into the study. This course has an emphasis on vocabulary through the study of Greek and Latin roots. Placement is by recommendation of the English Department.

ENGLISH 12 / ENGLISH 12 CP

This course traces key authors, themes, and literary styles that reveal worldviews of both Western and non-Western authors. The key to this course is the understanding of a culture's revelation through its literature. Students write a literary analysis essay and develop critical thinking skills. Students create and present a senior project at the end of the semester. A passing grade on the literary analysis essay and senior project are graduation requirements. Texts may include: *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*; *Things Fall Apart*; selected short stories and poems; *Their Eyes Were Watching God*; and *The Kite Runner*. During the course, students develop a senior project that culminates their four-years of study. The Worldview Project is a graduation requirement.

ENGLISH 12 HONORS – PA, NHS

This course explores American literature, culture, and history from 1900 to the present, with an emphasis on multicultural studies and literary movements of the 20th century. During the course, students write multiple literary analysis essays while also developing a senior project that culminates their four years of study. The Worldview Project is a graduation requirement.

English Electives

FOUNDATIONAL WRITING

This course is designed for students who are working on their basic writing skills. Students learn the stages of the writing process: how to brainstorm, how to create a topic sentence, how to support and organize ideas, and how to write clear, error-free sentences. Starting with basic paragraphing, students work toward writing longer essays. Narration, description, persuasion, and other forms of exposition are explored. Proper MLA Format is taught and practiced.

ESSAY WORKSHOP

An initial review of the writing process is followed by the systematic practice of the major types of expository writing. Essays are based on a variety of topics. Attention is given to grammatical usage and stylistic development. Proper MLA format is practiced.

ADVANCED COMPOSITION – PA, NHS

This course parallels a year one college writing course with emphasis on grammatical and organizational skills. Students practice multiple modes of essay formation. This is an advanced course requiring substantial writing. Admission is by application. Open to juniors and seniors.

JOURNALISM

This course focuses on the creation of *The EC Times*, a student-written publication distributed to EC, local churches, and the Holland Home approximately every six weeks. Students brainstorm news topics, interview staff and students, and develop articles with the intention of educating, informing, and inspiring the EC audience. Students participate in a real-life small business and strengthen writing, photography, and interpersonal skills, while also diving into some of the topics influencing mass media today.

ADVANCED JOURNALISM

Prerequisite: C in Journalism

This course meets simultaneously with Journalism to coordinate and write pieces for The EC Times and to lead small groups of Journalism students in brainstorming sessions. Students in this course pursue outside-of-school publishing opportunities (freelancing for local newspapers, etc.) with teacher support. Admission is by application.

YEARBOOK/PUBLISHING

In this course, students manage a \$32,000 yearbook project, develop a concept, obtain information, and implement design elements. Learning and using a variety of business and publishing skills, students follow an editorial process and collaborate to complete deadlines. This course meets every other day for the entire year. Open to juniors and seniors.

PUBLIC SPEAKING (ODD YEARS)

This course provides a study in organizing and presenting speeches. Students develop and present various speeches including informative, demonstrative, and persuasive. Emphasis is on increasing confidence, developing effective speaking, and practicing listening skills.

CREATIVE WRITING (EVEN YEARS)

This course is a portfolio workshop in which students produce various texts through the study of reading samples and peer critiques. Genre focuses include short story, poetry, screenwriting, and personal essay. Students retain and revise works to select the most appropriate material for potential publication.

MAJOR AUTHOR STUDY

In this major author course, students delve into the enduring concepts, themes, influences, and impacts of authors such as Lewis, Tolkein, Shakespeare and more, both upon the academic world and the rest of society. Students study a broad scope of works including poetry and drama, short stories, and novels. Open to juniors and seniors.

English as a Second Language (ESL)

ESL FULL YEAR

This course is for English Language Learners to practice skills in all four modes—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—that are essential for success in high school and beyond. Using authentic texts, students practice reading comprehension, increase reading fluency, enhance vocabulary, practice grammatical skills, and learn the basics of literary analysis. By participating in a wide range of activities, students are also introduced to different teaching methods that are common in American classrooms. Placement is determined by testing.

ESL HALF YEAR

This course is for English Language Learners who require a semester of preparation before continuing on to English CP. Students use authentic texts to increase their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills and learn how to analyze and enjoy literature of a variety of genres. Placement is determined by testing.

WRITING WORKSHOP ESL

This course is for English Language Learners who need to develop solid writing skills through increased practice. Emphasis is on using proper grammar, crafting clear sentences, developing unified paragraphs, and writing full essays in a number of forms including expository, narrative, and description. Placement is determined by testing.

Mathematics

15 Credits of Mathematics are required for graduation.

A scientific calculator is required for all math courses at Eastern Christian. For students taking Algebra 2 Honors and higher, a TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Mathematics, which is a study of order and pattern, allows us to more clearly see God's consistency in creation. Our world, its structure, and laws show these same unchanging patterns and order, thus proclaiming the divine nature of creation. Most colleges require three years of math for admission, and four years are recommended for students whose vocational choices demand proficiency in math. Math teachers can assist in ensuring course selections meet vocational aspirations.

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY 1

Through differentiated instruction that emphasizes daily review, students strengthen skills needed for Algebra 1 and Geometry. Students learn problem solving, integer operations, equations, factors and multiples, fraction/decimal/percent conversions, mixed numbers, probability, rates, ratios, geometric figures, area, and perimeter. Students enter Integrated Algebra and Geometry 2 before Algebra 1.

INTEGRATED ALGEBRA AND GEOMETRY 2

This course reviews and introduces several concepts needed for Algebra 1 and Geometry. The following subjects are presented with use of differentiated instruction. Students learn problem solving, exponent laws, solving, writing and graphing linear equations, fractions, decimals, proportions, percents, ratios, probability, geometric figures, and measurements. Both Integrated Algebra and Geometry 1 and Integrated Algebra and Geometry 2 prepare the students for Algebra 1.

ALGEBRA 1

Algebra 1 is designed to equip students with the necessary skills to solve problems algebraically. Students gain an understanding of concepts such as communication, balance, growth, patterns, relationships, and comparisons. Students learn exponents, polynomials, factoring, linear equations, inequalities, systems of equations and square roots.

GEOMETRY NO PROOF

Prerequisite: Integrated Algebra and Geometry 2

The main elements of plane geometry are covered using a non-proof approach. Students explore angles, triangles, congruent relationships, parallel lines, polygons, coordinate geometry, trigonometric ratios, and geometric solids. Students also learn how to do constructions using a compass. This course is an alternative option for students who are challenged by the demands of a college preparatory Geometry curriculum.

GEOMETRY

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This course helps students to gain an understanding of Euclidean geometry through an approach that relies on deductive reasoning and proofs. Through this approach, students explore topics such as angles, triangles, congruence, parallel lines, polygons, and trigonometric relationships.

GEOMETRY HONORS

At an accelerated pace, this course studies the main elements of Euclidean geometry with aspects of solid geometry to a greater depth. Higher level thinking, algebraic processes, and deductive reasoning through proofs are important tools in studying at the honors level. Students also learn how to apply principles of algebra to geometric problems.

ALGEBRA 2

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Algebra 2 continues to explore the concepts and principles of algebraic problem solving introduced in Algebra 1. The fundamental concepts of this course include linear, quadratic, and rational functions. Specifically, students learn imaginary numbers, polynomials, systems of equations, inequalities, exponents, and solving quadratics.

ALGEBRA 2 HONORS – NHS

This course covers, at an accelerated pace, fundamental concepts including linear, quadratic, and rational functions. Specifically, students learn imaginary numbers, polynomials, systems of equations, inequalities, exponents, the quadratic formula, conics, statistics, probability, and matrices. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for students taking Algebra 2 Honors.

MATHEMATICAL ANALYSIS

Prerequisite: C in Algebra 2

This course is a post-Algebra 2 course in which students study advanced topics in mathematics in preparation for college level math courses. Students learn sequences and series, exponential and logarithmic functions, graphing functions, conics, trigonometry, and matrices.

PRECALCULUS – NHS

Prerequisite: A in Algebra 2, B+ in Algebra 2 Honors or B+ in Math Analysis

This course integrates the topics studied in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 and begins to lay the groundwork for Calculus and college level math courses. This course is designed to develop quantitative reasoning and problem solving. Students learn to use technology in problem solving and explore how to effectively communicate mathematical ideas. Students learn linear, polynomial, polar, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometric functions. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for students taking Precalculus.

STATISTICS – NHS

Prerequisite: A in Algebra 2, B+ in Algebra 2 Honors or B+ in Math Analysis

This course explores the science of statistics. Students understand the processes of sampling data, creating honest and unbiased experiments, and interpreting data. Students learn about z-scores, standard deviation, expected value, variance, distributions, hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, chi-squares, correlations, and probability. It is a challenging capstone course for students who want an advanced mathematics course but would not necessarily be going into a math-related major in college. Students enrolled in this course, with some independent study, may have the option of taking the Advanced Placement Statistics exam in May.

CALCULUS 1 – PA, NHS

Prerequisite: B in Precalculus

In this course, students explore the basic concepts of single-variable Calculus 1. Students learn limits, differentiation, integrals, and the applications related to each. With some independent study, students enrolled in this course may have the option of taking the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam in May.

CALCULUS 2 – PA, NHS

Prerequisite: B in Calculus 1

In this course, students learn arc length, surface area, integration by parts, trigonometric integration, L'Hopital's Rule, sequences and series. With some independent study, students enrolled in this course may have the option of taking the Advanced Placement Calculus BC exam in May.

Physical Education/Health

Physical Education/Health is required each year of attendance.

Physical Education and Health courses provide students with an opportunity to learn about sportsmanship, teamwork, and physical wellness as a means of understanding and honoring how God has designed our bodies. The primary objective of these courses is for students to develop an appreciation for physical activity and personal fitness. Activity units include team sports, individual sports, creative games, aerobic workouts, and strength training. Health integrates classroom theory with physical experience to encourage a responsible, healthy lifestyle. Physical Education/Health courses are divided into two tracks (9th and 10th, and 11th and 12th) offered in alternating years.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 1 (GRADES 9 AND 10/ODD YEARS)

Students learn and practice the sports of soccer, lacrosse, tennis, frisbee, and badminton. Students also participate in a variety of creative and novel games to improve personal fitness and increase coordination, skills and agility. Health topics include life skills, social health, medicine and drugs, and other current health issues.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 2 (GRADES 9 AND 10/EVEN YEARS)

Students study and learn the skills needed for softball, football, hiking, basketball, and volleyball. Health explores the concept of total health & fitness, as well as first aid, safety, disease prevention, and other current health issues.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 3 (GRADES 11 AND 12/ODD YEARS)

Students practice more advanced concepts in soccer, lacrosse, tennis, frisbee, and badminton. They also have the opportunity to create and participate in creative games designed to achieve specific desired physical benefits. Concurrent health topics include nutrition, mental and emotional health, social health and other current and relevant health issues.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 4 (GRADES 11 AND 12/EVEN YEARS)

Students practice advanced concepts in softball, football, hiking, basketball, and volleyball, as well as popular recreation games and kayaking at a local lake. Health topics include human sexuality, human development, substance abuse, and other current and relevant health issues.

Science

15 Credits in Science are required for graduation.

As God's chosen caretakers of creation, we study science in an effort to see his glory as shown in every aspect of our universe. Freshmen are scheduled for Earth Science or Earth Science Honors, and sophomores for Biology or Biology Honors. Students may then choose from Chemistry, Chemistry Honors, or Principles of Chemistry for the third science requirement. Advanced Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Physics, Physics Honors, and Principles of Research are offered as additional electives.

EARTH SCIENCE

Earth Science is a requirement for all freshmen and is taught with a focus on the following broad topics: Earth as a dynamic planet, Earth as a complex set of systems, and Earth in space. Through this course, students learn the fundamental skills of observation and experimentation. They also cultivate, what was a foundational understanding of the earth, into an immense body of knowledge about the Earth through the study of ecology, oceanography and astronomy. Central to this course is our responsibility as Christians to be stewards of planet Earth.

EARTH SCIENCE HONORS

Earth Science Honors is an alternative to the general Earth Science course and is intended for those students who are following the Honors track in science. It focuses on the same broad topics as the general course but has enriched content and advanced concepts with more quantitative problem-solving. Like the general course, a central theme is our responsibility as Christians to be stewards of planet Earth.

BIOLOGY

Biology introduces students to the major concepts of life science using a variety of classroom and laboratory experiences. Topics include biochemistry, cell biology, cell division, genetics, and ecology. This course encourages responsible stewardship and provides preparation for advanced study in biology.

BIOLOGY HONORS

Biology Honors is recommended for sophomores who have demonstrated extraordinary interest and aptitude in Earth Science. It includes topics outlined in the general course, but covers them in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. Biology Honors is a rigorous science course that provides excellent preparation for Advanced Biology, and Anatomy & Physiology.

PRINCIPLES OF CHEMISTRY (EVEN YEARS)

Developed by the American Chemical Society and endorsed by the National Science Foundation, this program is designed to teach students relevant chemistry concepts by emphasizing how chemistry impacts our everyday lives. Principles of Chemistry incorporates extensive laboratory and student-centered activities. This course meets the high school's requirement of a third lab science course and is offered at an appropriate level of rigor. It is a viable alternative for students who are challenged by the mathematics required for college preparatory chemistry and physics.

CHEMISTRY

Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Geometry, and Biology

Chemistry is intended for juniors and seniors who wish to fulfill the college entrance requirements in Chemistry but do not intend to pursue a career in science studies. Chemistry provides students with an excellent foundation in the study of matter and its changes. The topics include atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, gas laws, the mathematics of chemical reactions, and energy. This course is intended for students who are comfortable with abstract science concepts and mathematical computations.

CHEMISTRY HONORS – PA, NHS

Prerequisites: A in Algebra 2 and A in Biology, or B in Algebra 2 Honors and B in Biology Honors

Chemistry Honors is intended for those students who wish to pursue science in college. The Chemistry Honors curriculum includes the same topics studied in Chemistry, but in greater detail and at an accelerated rate. Additional topics include the quantum model of the atom, thermodynamics, and acid-base theory. Chemistry Honors is an excellent choice for those students desiring an in-depth analytical, quantitative, and rigorous science course.

Science Electives

ADVANCED BIOLOGY – PA, NHS

Prerequisites: A in Biology or B in Biology Honors, A in Chemistry or B in Chemistry Honors or with the permission of the instructor

Advanced Biology emphasizes the investigative process in the study of genetics, cell division, biotechnology, human genetics, and origins. This is a rigorous course for self-motivated students who are ready to explore. It provides preparation for independent research at the college level.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY – PA, NHS

Prerequisites: A in Biology or B in Biology Honors, A in Chemistry or B in Chemistry Honors, or with the permission of the instructor

Anatomy & Physiology is a rigorous college-level course designed to provide a foundation for study in physical therapy, nursing, medicine, dentistry, or biomedical engineering. This course provides students with an understanding of human body structures, their principal functions, and how each contributes to the maintenance of homeostasis. This is an advanced course that includes a significant amount of lab work.

PHYSICS – NHS

Prerequisites: B in Algebra 2, Geometry, and Chemistry

Physics investigates Newtonian physics as it relates to motion in one and two dimensions, circular motion, forces, work and energy, and momentum. This course emphasizes how the laws of physics relate to everyday life. Problem solving is emphasized so students should be comfortable solving problems using basic algebra and geometry.

PHYSICS HONORS – PA, NHS

Prerequisites: B in Chemistry Honors, Geometry Honors, and Algebra 2 Honors

Physics Honors is designed for students who wish to pursue science in college. The curriculum includes the same topics covered in Physics with additional topics that include mechanical and sound waves, electric charge, electric fields, electric potential, and electric circuits. Since this course involves solving problems using physics formulas, vector algebra, and trigonometry, students need to have excelled in Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry. This course, along with some independent studying on the part of students, will prepare students for the AP Physics I Exam.

PRINCIPLES OF RESEARCH

Prerequisites: 9th or 10th grade student in Math and Science Honors courses

Through hands-on, small-scale projects, students learn how to set up and conduct scientific research. Students learn how to develop hypotheses and then design experiments to test their hypotheses. Additionally, students learn the steps of the design process and apply these steps to their small-scale projects. Other aspects of the course include presentation techniques, creating posters and slideshows for presentations, and reading science research literature. The class culminates in a final small-scale research project for which students write a report. Through visits from area scientists and selected TED talks, students are introduced to the various fields of science.

Social Studies

20 Credits of Social Studies are required for graduation.

Social Studies courses seek to enlighten students to the geography and cultures that have shaped our world, giving rise to discussions about historical events and civilizations from a Christian worldview.

In grade 9, students study world cultures as they have developed through history. In grade 10, students study modern world history from about 1500 to the present. In grades 11 and 12, students study American history and politics. An interdisciplinary approach to these studies is emphasized.

WORLD HISTORY 1 CP

This course takes a regional approach to the study of cultures, with emphasis on ancient world history. Each regional study begins with a consideration of the historical culture and worldview of the region, moving towards an investigation of how the cultures are interrelated. This includes such topics as geography, history, religion, economics, politics, social development.

WORLD HISTORY 1 HONORS

Prerequisite: Approved application and admissions testing

This interdisciplinary course focuses on the study of the history and humanities from ancient civilization through the Renaissance. This course provides a view of world civilizations and the development of the state through about 1500. Students study the art, music, philosophy, etc., of each historical era. Extensive reading in AP level text and writing is required.

WORLD HISTORY 2 CP

In this course, students continue their study of world civilizations by investigating themes in modern world history from about 1500 to the present. Students are challenged to consider those ideas, people, and events that have helped shape the modern world. Students analyze how changes in society affects all facets of life by additionally viewing changes in art, literature, and architecture.

WORLD HISTORY 2 HONORS

In this course, students continue their study of world civilizations by investigating themes in modern world history from the Enlightenment through the modern era. Students are challenged to consider those ideas, people, and events that have helped shape the modern world. This interdisciplinary course completes a two-year humanities sequence. At the end of this course, students are prepared to take the AP European History Exam.

U.S. HISTORY 1 CP

In this course, students examine the development of America from the Age of Exploration through the Progressive Era in defining the formation of America's identity. Students develop research skills to better understand and analyze America's history. Students are able to apply historical skills in their examination of America from roughly 1600 through 1900.

U.S. HISTORY 1 HONORS – PA, NHS

In this course, students will examine the history and development of America in its political, economic, social, and cultural contexts from about 1500 (European colonization) to the end of the 1800s. Using chronological and conceptual approaches to the history, students explore extensive primary and secondary sources, as well as the analysis and interpretations of modern historians, as well as learn how to apply historical thinking skills.

U.S. HISTORY 2 CP

In this course, students examine the development of the American identity throughout the 20th and 21st centuries. Students are challenged to examine political, social, and cultural developments in order to understand the changes that occur in the American nation. A significant component of this course is the study of American government in the context of the 20th and 21st centuries.

U.S. HISTORY 2 HONORS – PA, NHS

In this course, students examine the history and development of America in its political, economic, social, and cultural contexts from the early 20th century to present day. Using chronological and conceptual approaches to history, students explore extensive primary and secondary sources, the analysis and interpretations of modern historians, and learn how to apply historical thinking skills.

Social Studies Electives

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (ODD YEARS)

This course combines the study of the international community and macroeconomics. Key concepts lead students to understand the principles which guide relationships between nations, examine the role of the United States in the international community, analyze the relationship between economics and international relations, examine the new world order since 9/11/01, and struggle with developing a Christian perspective on international relations. A requirement in this course is the development of a current events journal and a project related to a current international controversy. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

CIVICS (EVEN YEARS)

Romans 13 exhorts Christians to honor those in authority over us. In order to honor this command, we must strive to understand how this passage applies to our lives. This course explores how American government works and is designed for students who want to be challenged to better understand the principles and practices of American civic life. The course includes an in-depth consideration of the principles of American government, an overview of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and the practices of government at national, state, and

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local levels. In addition, there is an emphasis on the responsibilities we have as citizens of both our nation and the world. Finally, we consider how being a citizen of God's kingdom impacts our actions as citizens of nations on earth. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

LAW & ORDER: AN INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE (ODD YEARS)

This course is an introductory survey that focuses on the development of law and justice, crime and punishment, the administration of law, and larger questions regarding the American criminal justice system. Main emphasis will be placed on the criminal justice process and how the various institutions of criminal justice interact by examining court cases, speaking with individuals working within the criminal justice field, and visiting various locations. Students will also look at criminal justice through a Biblical worldview as they grapple with the ideas of sin, free will, and ultimately redemption. They will also confront the justice system as a retributive system and consider the nature of a restorative system aligned with Christian beliefs. The ultimate goal of this course is to educate students to become informed citizens of the United States in the Global Age. Open to juniors and seniors.

GENOCIDE & HUMAN BEHAVIOR (EVEN YEARS)

This course allows students to examine common human behaviors, beliefs, and attitudes that can be readily observed in their own lives. Students explore historical case studies, such as the Holocaust, the Cambodian Genocide, and the Rwandan Genocide, and analyze how common behaviors may have influenced the choices individuals made in the past—to participate, stand by, or stand up—in the face of injustice and mass murder. Students examine how the history they have studied continues to influence our world today, and consider how they might choose to participate in bringing about a more humane, just, and compassionate world. Students are challenged to apply and consider their own Christian beliefs as we move through the course. Open to juniors and seniors.

INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

This course gives students the knowledge to better understand themselves, their lives, and their communities. This is accomplished by studying principles, concepts, and theories central to the study of psychology. Specifically, students are introduced to the scientific study of psychology, the connection between the body and the mind, the learning and thinking processes of the human mind, the path of human development from infancy through old age, how and why a person experiences emotions, how an individual's health is related to stress, and how our attitudes affect the way we see the world and the people in it. Open to juniors and seniors.

World Languages

5 Credits are required to graduate, although many colleges require 10 credits.

SPANISH 1

This course is an opportunity to learn the most popular world language in the USA today. Students hear, speak, write, read, and comprehend basic Spanish. In this course, students master the ability to speak using present tense verbs, both regular and irregular. Students are equipped to have simple conversations with Spanish speakers in diverse situations. Supplementary readers increase the student's vocabulary and enrich knowledge and appreciation of the Hispanic culture. Additionally, students examine the impact of native Spanish-speakers within the United States. Placement tests are given to students with prior coursework in Spanish to determine appropriate levels.

SPANISH 2

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Students build upon their understanding of Spanish through a brief review of previously learned grammar and vocabulary. This course then takes students through a rigorous and detailed practice of the many nuances of Spanish, including a deeper look at regular and irregular verbs in present, preterite-perfect, imperfect and progressive tenses. Students practice speaking, reading, and writing the language within contexts that prepare them for situations like traveling to a Spanish-speaking country for both leisure and study. Students continue to study Hispanic culture, including an emphasis on understanding the political and economical states of several Latin American countries.

SPANISH 3 NHS

Prerequisite: B in Spanish 2

Building on the foundation of Spanish 1 and 2, this course introduces more advanced grammar concepts and contemporary vocabulary that encourage more natural speech and greater ability to communicate. Literature, movies, and cultural activities supplement textbook work. Student verbal presentations are integrated throughout the course. Students who excel and are striving for acceptance to a very competitive university are urged to take levels 3 and 4.

SPANISH 4 NHS

Prerequisite: B in Spanish 3

This course is an advanced and comprehensive study of the Spanish language and culture. In this advanced course, students participate in more challenging speaking, reading, and writing in the target language. Most conversation and discussion in this course is conducted in Spanish. Students who excel and are striving for acceptance to a very competitive university are urged to take levels 3 and 4.

Other Opportunities:

WINGS

The WINGS program (Work Internship Network for Gaining Skills) offers a customized internship for junior and senior students who would like real-world educational experiences. Students enrolled in WINGS travel to a job site to learn technical skills in place of a classroom. WINGS can be used to accelerate job training or to explore a possible career path or interest. ECHS administration works with motivated and independent students and their families to design a pathway of academic courses, identify an outside provider for training, and support an internship for hands-on job experience. The traditional internship model takes place during school hours in exchange for class time. We currently offer additional models including summer and after school internships.

This program is done on an independent basis alongside a faculty mentor. Any travel expenses or tuition fees are the responsibility of the family. Possible fields of study include, but are not limited to: biomedical science and technology, cosmetology, dental hygiene, construction management, engineering, auto mechanics, marketing and design, general practice law, airport management, real estate, court house (legal) and elementary school.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

The Educational Support Services, also known as TESS resource room courses, include assistance with current subjects and homework, as well as support with study skills and self-advocacy skills. This course is taken for credit and is offered every other day or daily.

INDEPENDENT STUDY OPTIONS

Some students may have the option of pursuing an independent, faculty-directed course. Exceptional students must be motivated and demonstrate a thirst for knowledge in a particular area. The student must request the independent study from their academic and college counselor and speak to the faculty member who would oversee their work. The student and faculty member formulate a plan of study and schedule deadlines, and then submit a written proposal of the course to the principal and dean. An Independent Study Contract needs to be signed and each part of the process followed explicitly. Credit for the course would coincide with the work required and grades would be assigned.

SOAR

Student Opted Academic Resource (SOAR) is a time in students' schedules that allows them to explore an interest. SOAR meets for 40 minutes between blocks 1 and 2 for four days a week. Many students choose to participate in our Music program during this time which consists of choir, orchestra, or band. Other students can choose between many different clubs or activities that change throughout the year. Our teachers provide a variety of choices that explore different subject areas or provide skill practice. Some students also choose to meet with their teachers to get extra help in a subject. SOAR provides an opportunity for students to take on a leadership role by starting SOARs that provide new interest areas to the student body.

STUDY HALL (FULL AND HALF BLOCK)

Study Hall is available for students who need time in their school day to actively work on class work, especially if time constraints after school due to sports or other activities prevent them from having sufficient time to complete homework assignments. Study Hall can be chosen in full blocks or half blocks, as needed. No academic credit is given for Study Hall.



EASTERN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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