



2026-2027

# ACADEMIC CATALOG

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# GENERAL ACADEMICS

## Guiding Principles

### Mission Statement

The mission of Northwest Christian Schools is to provide a Christ-centered environment with a superior education that prepares students to have a positive impact in our world for Him.

### Vision

Northwest Christian Schools will be an innovative leader in Christian education, empowering students to achieve their fullest individual potential.

### Core Values

(TRITEC) Transparency, Respect, Integrity, Trust, Excellence, Collaboration.

**Transparency** – In order to build and maintain trust, to preserve unity, and to honor all stakeholders, we commit to being transparent in our values, policies, and use of resources (Jn. 4:24; Eph. 4:25).

**Respect** – Each individual has been created by God and bears the image of the Father. We believe all people are deserving of our respect. We also know that respect can be lost and is a virtue that must be earned. We will model to our students how to show respect and act respectfully (Gen. 1:27; Rom. 12:10; Rom. 13:7; Phil 2:3-4; I Pet. 2:17).

**Integrity** – We will operate our school with integrity. We will show ourselves to be different and live and work by a higher standard (Prov. 10:9; Prov. 28:6; Titus 2:7). We will consistently set the bar high, emphasizing the importance of integrity to our students.

**Trust** – We understand trust is earned and is foundational to all successful relationships. We will work to establish and preserve the trust of our faculty, parents, students and community (Prov. 11:13). We will strive to develop students who are worthy of trust.

**Excellence** – We will not settle for mediocrity and we will always strive to improve. God has called us to excellence, therefore we will strive for excellence in all we do, inside and outside the classroom (Col. 3:23; I Cor. 10:31).

**Collaboration** – God has given us different gifts and called us to live and work as a community. We are stronger when we interact and work with one another. We desire for our staff to work collaboratively and to equip our students with collaborative skills (Eph. 4:1-7; Rom. 12:4-5; I Cor. 12:4-6).

### Educational Philosophy

The educational process in a Christian school is dependent on a Biblical philosophy which provides the right world view and essential truths for life so that children may be prepared to assume their proper place in the home, the church, and the state. Accordingly, the philosophy of education for Northwest Christian Schools is as follows:

- To provide education on the highest spiritual and moral level in accordance with the above Statement of Faith;
- To support the family in the task of bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord;

- To establish a Christian School to provide the Biblical instruction and the teaching of various subjects consistent with the State Board approval requirements;
- To establish a Christian School to provide the educational environment for preschool, elementary, middle school, and high school students which will motivate each child to achieve their academic potential;
- To provide an environment for the students that will help each child develop at their own rate, physically, socially, emotionally, mentally, spiritually, and morally;
- To provide a firm basis for the development of the qualities of sound character, dependability, and good citizenship;
- To influence strongly in favor of a commitment to Christian living and to train for services to God.

## Grading Scale

Percentage	Grade	Grade Point
93-100	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.7
88-89	B+	3.3
82-87	B	3.0
80-81	B-	2.7
78-79	C+	2.3
72-77	C	2.0
70-71	C-	1.7
68-69	D+	1.3
62-67	D	1.0
60-61	D-	0.7

## Late Work Policy

1-2 School Days Late	15% penalty
3-5 School Days Late	50% penalty
Beyond 5 School Days	Late work not accepted for credit five (5) school days after the due date.

“School days” refers to days that school is in session, not weekends or holidays. With an excused absence there is a grace period equal to the number of school days absent in order to complete the

work assigned on those days. For example, if a student misses one school day of class, one additional school day is granted to complete the work for full credit. Students are responsible for scheduling a time to take missed tests/quizzes within a week of their return and for getting make-up work on the first day back from the absence.

Additional extension can be granted due to a family emergency or extended illness. The number of additional days will be designated by the teacher and administration.

Final deadline dates for assignments are given at the end of each quarter/semester grading periods where work is no longer accepted.

Concurrent credit and advanced placement courses may have more stringent policies for late work, which will be communicated in the course syllabus.

## Standardized Testing

The following table shows what tests students are required to take. The **SAT / ACT School Code:** 480834 (For use when registering to take the SAT/ACT tests).

Grade Level	Test
Freshman	Do not take a standardized test
Sophomore	ASVAB (student may opt to also take the PSAT for additional practice)
Junior	PSAT
Senior	SAT

## Student Schedules

Student schedules are determined by student progress to fulfill graduation requirements, available electives, courses being offered during a given year, and class sizes. Class change forms are available for students to complete in concert with parental/guardian involvement. Requested changes will be considered but not automatically honored. In the event that two courses needed to graduate conflict with each other in the schedule, the student may be able to enroll in an independent study, if (1) the student has a GPA of 3.0 or above and has shown their ability to successfully work independently, and (2) the student has teacher and administrative approval.

## Add/Drop Course Sections

No student shall add/drop a course in their schedule after the first week of class unless administration approval is granted.

A student shall only add/drop a course at the beginning of second semester during the first week. A student shall not switch into a yearlong course or switch out of a yearlong course into a semester course during the second semester unless administration approval is granted.

## Transfer Credits

Students taking courses outside of NCHS must provide official transcripts to administration no later than May 15 or the following business day if it happens to fall on a non-school day to ensure proper credit transfer and graduation progress. Seniors must show school administration an hourly log at each Quarterly Progress Report to prove they are on track for graduation.

## Home School Credit

Students who take a home school course are required to submit the “Home school Course Approval” form with the required hourly documentation log no later than May 15 or the following business day if it happens to fall on a non-school day. Seniors must show school administration an hourly log at each Quarterly Progress Report to prove they are on track for graduation.

## NCAA Eligibility Requirements

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) verifies the academic eligibility of student athletes in college sports. Students who are interested in post-secondary athletics at a Division I, II or III school should visit the [eligibility center website](#) and create an account. Students and families should communicate with the NCHS counselor to guide the process in selecting courses that ensure NCAA eligibility.

## Academic Probation Plan

Students who have an academic deficiency of at least two F’s will be placed on an Academic Probation Plan (APP). The purpose of the APP is to offer additional support to the student to recover and to provide open communication with relevant parties.

## Transcript Release

Transcripts are the property of NCHS and may be released to a parent upon request. However, when released to a parent, the transcript will be marked “Unofficial”. When responding to a request from a college, transcripts will be mailed directly to that college from NCHS and will be "Official".

# COLLEGE CREDIT AT NCHS

## Concurrent Credit and Advanced Placement

Students can earn up to 103 semester credit hours of college credit while also earning high school credit at NCHS. This can be done through our *Concurrent Credit program* and *Advanced Placement (AP)* courses which are taken during the regular school day and are taught by our NCHS faculty who are approved to teach the courses for credit as adjunct college instructors. Currently, NCHS partners with Northwest Nazarene University and Northwest University.

	Description	How do students earn college credit?	Fees
<b>Concurrent Credit</b>	College level coursework taken during the regular school day and taught by NCHS faculty	Students do have an exam, but credit is not earned based on the exam score; full college credit is earned by passing the class.	Yes, there is a tuition fee that goes to the partnering college. The exact cost for each course varies, but will be communicated to families in September.
<b>Advanced Placement</b>	College level coursework taken during the regular school day and taught by NCHS faculty	AP courses culminate with an exam. Students earn college credit based on their performance on the exam. Please note that an AP Exam score and final course grades are separate from each other. A student's course grade may not be changed based on the exam score.	Yes, while there is no tuition fee, there is the cost of the exam which is proctored at NCHS.

### Why Earn College Credit at NCHS?

Earning college credit while on NCHS campus is often an excellent fit if a student is desiring to have increased rigor. It also allows students to accelerate towards a college degree, thus allowing more flexibility when entering into college since many 100 and 200 level courses can be completed prior to graduating from high school. Finally, students receive a significant college tuition discount compared to the cost that will be associated with attending university. The universities that we partner with are regionally accredited institutions of higher education which allows students to transfer their earned credits to a college of their choice.

### Entrance Criteria for Concurrent Credit, AP, and Honors

AP and concurrent credit courses are designed to prepare students to have mastery of first and second year college level coursework. Honors level courses—although not college level—are still more rigorous than a general high school course. An increased volume and difficulty of homework in these specific classes will be necessary to prepare for successful completion. A student who is accepted into

a Concurrent Credit, AP, or Honors course acknowledges the additional rigor required (both in and out of class) by enrolling in these demanding courses.

In order to enroll in Concurrent Credit, AP, and Honors courses, students must meet the following criteria:

- Achieve a B+ or higher in the subject the previous year;
- Obtain a teacher recommendation for Concurrent Credit, AP and/or Honors courses for the following year in the desired department.
- Receive approval from current teacher of the desired course for enrollment.

### List of Concurrent Credit & AP Courses

The following is a list of Concurrent Credit and AP Courses offered at NCHS, however not all are offered every year. Please refer to the course descriptions section for more information:

<b>Bible/Theology</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to Theology</li> <li>● The Story of Christianity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP Pre-Calculus</li> <li>● AP Calculus AB</li> <li>● AP Calculus BC</li> <li>● AP Statistics</li> </ul>
<b>Communications</b>	<b>Science/Health</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to Public Speaking 1</li> <li>● Introduction to Public Speaking 2</li> <li>● Communication Activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Introduction to Biology</li> <li>● Human Biology and Lab</li> <li>● Environmental Science</li> <li>● Chemistry for Citizens</li> <li>● AP Biology</li> <li>● Health Fundamentals of Wellness</li> </ul>
<b>English</b>	<b>World Language</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP Seminar</li> <li>● Literature: Short Fiction</li> <li>● AP Literature and Composition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Elementary Spanish 1</li> <li>● Elementary Spanish 2</li> <li>● Intermediate Spanish 1</li> <li>● Intermediate Spanish 2</li> </ul>
<b>Computer/Technology</b>	<b>Social Science</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP Computer Science A</li> <li>● AP Computer Science Principles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The World and the West 1</li> <li>● The World and the West 2</li> <li>● American National Politics</li> <li>● Analysis of Economic Issues</li> <li>● Introduction to Psychology</li> <li>● AP U.S. History</li> </ul>

# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## Criteria for Receiving a NCHS Diploma

- A student who has been a full-time home-schooled student through the junior year must attend NCHS full-time for their senior year to establish a GPA.
- For a transfer student, the previous high school transcript grades will be entered on our rolls and evaluated to determine the NCHS classes needed to meet NCHS graduation requirements.
- For students who have been enrolled full-time at NCHS as freshmen and sophomores and enter Running Start or New Market Vocational Skill Center as a part-time junior or senior, a combination of grades from both institutions for credits will be added to the student's transcript for an NCHS diploma (this assumes equivalencies to meet NCHS required credits).
- Students attending Running Start or New Market must take a minimum of four (4) classes at NCHS during their Junior and Senior years.
- Part time students seeking a NCHS diploma must take Bible courses through NCHS.

## Criteria for Receiving a NCHS Honors Diploma

- For students who have been enrolled full-time at NCHS until their senior year and enter New Market Vocational Skill Center as a part-time senior, a combination of grades from both institutions for credits will be added to the student's transcript for an NCHS diploma (this assumes equivalencies which meet NCHS required credits).
- A student who has been a full-time home-schooled student through the junior year must attend NCHS full-time their senior year to establish a GPA.
- For a transfer student, the previous high school transcript grades will be recorded and evaluated to determine the NCHS classes needed to meet NCHS graduation requirements.
- For students who have been full-time at NCHS for the first three years and are close to completing requirements, a minimum of four NCHS credits are required during their senior year.
- Students must earn a 3.5 (minimum) cumulative GPA and 27 credits to earn an NCHS honors diploma. Students are required to have 4 years of Math and 4 years of Science for the additional credits.
- Students may not be enrolled in adaptive or international student courses during the junior and senior years.
- An honors diploma will not be granted if a student takes a class with another institution that was otherwise offered at NCHS. If NCHS does not offer a specific class, then an online class may be approved to count towards the honors diploma.
- A student with a scheduling conflict for a core subject, such as math, science, English, or Social Science, may request an online exception with administrative approval.

## NCHS & Beyond

The NCHS & Beyond plan is a state requirement for graduation. The Washington State Office of Public Instruction (OSPI) has issued this directive to all Washington schools that they must have a High School and Beyond Plan on how students will meet the high school graduation requirements and what they will do following high school. Each year that a student attends NCHS, they will be placed in a cohort that meets quarterly with one teacher who serves as the cohort advisor. Assignments for the quarter are verified by the advisor so that each student stays on track. Every school year, students will develop a portfolio of helpful tools, best works, awards, and certificates. We encourage the students to think of this as their brag book and use it as a resource when applying to colleges and universities. During a student's senior year, they will deliver a presentation to faculty and parents utilizing their portfolio.

Some of the activities in which students will participate for NCHS & Beyond include a learning style survey, a career interest inventory, a job application, and a job shadow. This experience will help prepare our NCHS students for life beyond high school. The student must complete each of the assignments for the year. For more information regarding NCHS & Beyond and to view a checklist, community service criteria, or community service tracker, visit the school's [website](#). For more information from OSPI's website, go to <https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/graduation/graduation-requirements>.

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

## Bible

### **Bible 1: Old Testament Survey**

This course provides an introduction to the theological, historical, and literary features of the Old Testament, tracing God's covenant relationship with ancient Israel. Special consideration will be given to the divine covenants and Messianic prophecies. *1.0 Freshman Bible Credit*

### **Bible 2: New Testament Survey**

This course introduces the theological, historical, and literary features of the New Testament, tracing the presentation of the gospel message through historical, epistolary, and apocalyptic genres. Special focus is given to the life of Christ and missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul. *1.0 Freshman Bible Credit; Prerequisite is Bible I*

### **Apologetics**

This course introduces major apologetic issues, such as, formal arguments for the existence of God, absurdity of life without God, problem of evil, and the historical reliability of the New Testament. Students will also be introduced to fundamentals principles of logic, types of argumentation, and formal fallacies. Students will develop their ability to effectively and winsomely communicate an intelligent Christian faith. *0.5 Junior/Senior Level Bible Credit; Prerequisites are Bible I and Bible II; Taken in conjunction with Spiritual Formation*

### **Spiritual Formation**

This course focuses on living all of life before God through apprenticeship to Jesus. Students explore spiritual disciplines of prayer, Scripture

reading, and living life in community with the church. Students will also survey various spiritual traditions within church history. *0.5 Junior/Senior Level Bible Credit; Prerequisites are Bible I and Bible II; Taken in conjunction with Apologetics.*

### **Introduction to Theology**

This course surveys major Christian doctrine, including Scripture, God, humanity, Christ, salvation, the church, and last things. Students are encouraged to better know, trust, love, and live in relationship with God. *0.5 Junior/Senior Level Bible Credit; Prerequisites are Bible I and Bible II; Available for concurrent credit, "The Story of Christianity"*

### **Outreach**

Students participate in one of three teams: (1) song and worship, (2) skits, or (3) outreach planning. Planning, organizing, and executing chapel, additional events that have spiritual emphasis, and days of service to the community happen in this class. Students must complete an application, meet our academic eligibility standards, and uphold our Code of Conduct. *1.0 Junior/Senior Level Bible Credit; Prerequisites are Bible I and Bible II. Students may take a second year of Outreach as an elective credit*

### **Church History**

This course surveys the history of the Christian church from Pentecost to the present, examining key people, events, and ideas that have shaped Christian belief and practice. *0.5 Junior/Senior Level Bible Credit; Prerequisites are Bible I and Bible II. Available for concurrent credit, "Foundations of Christian Faith"*

## English

### English Fundamentals

The student will solidify intermediate English skills in the areas of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Opportunities are given for the student to acquire necessary tools to help enter English educational environments with confidence. *1.0 English Credit*

### English 9

Emphasizes the fundamental language skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, viewing and presenting. An emphasis on vocabulary and composition skills will be an ongoing part of the program. The course includes studies of various literary genres: short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction. The development of critical reading and writing skills is a major emphasis of the course. *1.0 English Credit*

### Honors English 9

Includes the fundamental language skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, thinking, viewing and presenting expected in English 9 standards. Honors students will also analyze, critique, and create literature at a deeper level. *1.0 English Credit; Invitation only*

### English 10

Explores poetry, dramas, short stories, and novels which includes the following: Frankenstein, Fahrenheit 451, Light Night, and The Merchant of Venice. In addition to literary analysis, each student will effectively write various kinds of essays. *1.0 English Credit*

### AP Seminar

This is now taking the place of Honors English whereby students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives. Students learn to synthesize information from different sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. During the course, students complete a team project and an individual paper and presentation, as well as

take a written end-of-course exam. *1.0 English Credit; Prerequisite is English 9; Invitation only*

### Literature & Composition

A novel based course which analyzes American and British Literature. There is also study of literary devices, themes, grammar, vocabulary, and spiritual implications of each novel read as well as a unit on poetry. *1.0 Junior/Senior Level English Credit; Prerequisites are English 9 and English 10*

### AP English Literature & Composition

Literary analysis of British and English Literature. Literature that will be studied include the following: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, and Macbeth. In addition, we will look at excerpts from novels of the times including Great Expectations, Jane Eyre, Frankenstein, and more. Students will be responsible for reading one full novel on their own each quarter from the list of approved Literature novels and doing a project/presentation and two full essays required for this class. AP students will have additional writing activities throughout the year to prepare them for the exam. Sophomores may be able to take this class with successful completion of Honors English 9 and Instructor Approval. *1.0 Junior/Senior Level English Credit; Prerequisites are English 9 and English 10*

### Public Speaking

Public Speaking is an introduction to the foundations of the field of communication. The course will give an introduction to the communication process, communication theories, and how communication affects society and research in the field. It will provide the student with a broad examination of the field of communication with a focus on the theories in each area of communication. The course focuses on the academic objective of developing critical thinking skills and analyzing content in written and oral forms. *1.0 Junior/Senior Level English Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit*

## Creative Writing 1

The student will analyze good literature and work on incorporating those skills into their writing. Throughout the year, students will write an original poem, short story, one-act play, and a novella or novel. As sharing writing is one of the best ways to improve, students will be required to share their writing in small groups and with teacher and peer feedback sessions. We will discuss plots, characters, word choice, genres, and more. Daily writing activities will be required along with longer quarter based projects. Every Wednesday will be set aside for Write Off days. These are days specifically dedicated to writing and are meant to be fun and structured. It is automatically an Elective if taken before senior year. *1.0 Elective Credit or Senior English Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit*

## Creative Writing 2

Using the foundation established in Creative Writing 1, students will apply that to a longer literary work with the end goal of getting the work published. We will incorporate weekly writing critique sessions to improve writing and will discuss indie publishing as well as how to apply for a traditional publishing contract. In addition, we will discuss the basics of marketing and newsletters which are foundational for all authors. *1.0 Elective Credit Senior English Credit; Prerequisite is Creative Writing 1; Available for Concurrent Credit*

## Author Assistant Internship

This is a hands-on course for an aspiring author or someone who would like to be a personal assistant for an author or similar job. The student will learn how to edit audio files, set up a newsletter, engage with readers on social media, set up and monitor ads, join promotions, and more. Attention to detail and a good grasp of grammar and writing are a requirement. A student who has published or will have a book to publish will also be able to apply each skill with their own book. *1.0 Elective Credit or Occupational Education Credit; Prerequisite is Creative Writing 1; By invitation only*

## Social Studies

### World History

The student will study seven major units that include: The Ancient World, The Eastern World, The Medieval World, The Awakening World, The Enlightened World, Change Across Europe, and The Modern World. Students will examine social, political, and religious patterns that occur throughout history. *1.0 Sophomore level Social Studies Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit, "The World and the West 1 & 2"*

### US History

Designed to provide students with a basic account of United States History beginning with its discovery and colonization and ending with present day events. In this course, students will study people, events, groups, movements, and ideologies that have dramatically shaped and impacted the development of the North American continent. This course will help students analyze and understand how and why the U.S. has become the nation it is today. *1.0 Junior Level Social Studies Credit*

### AP US History

In order for a student to be enrolled in AP US History, he or she must have earned a "B" average or higher in World History and obtained teacher's approval to join the class. A survey of American history from the era of exploration to the present day that examines the nations' political, diplomatic, intellectual, cultural, social, and economic history. A variety of instructional approaches will be employed, and a college level textbook will be supplemented by primary and secondary sources. *1.0 Junior Level Social Studies Credit*

### US Government

An introduction to American politics from the 18th century to the present. Major themes and events include the writing of the U.S. Constitution, the development of American political principles and institutions, and contemporary political practices and issues in the U.S. Additional outside reading and writing assignments will be incorporated. *0.5 Senior*

*Level Social Studies Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit, "American National Politics"*

### **Economics**

One quarter of this senior level class will focus on how economic principles permeate many of the decisions we make in life. Students will establish the basics of economic terminology and then proceed through these economic principles, seeing how they measure up to the underlying principles of Christian values. A personal finance component will make up the other quarter of the class. Students will focus on real world skills such as budgeting, taxes, and preparing for their future. Additional outside reading and writing assignments will be incorporated. *0.5 Senior Level Social Studies Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit, "Analysis of Economic Issues"*

## **Mathematics**

### **Math Fundamentals**

Focuses on bridging the gap between basic math and algebra. It uses an incremental spiral approach to move students efficiently through basic math/pre-algebra skills to prepare the student for Algebra 1. Prepares students to be successful in Algebra 1 and includes a study in concepts of equivalency, solving equations with one unknown, some geometry and a comprehensive review and reinforcement of Pre-Algebra skills. *1.0 Math Credit*

### **Algebra 1**

This course covers the essential principles of Algebra using an incremental spiral approach. Some of the topics covered will be polynomials, radicals, linear equations and functions. Attention will be given mathematical reasoning. *1.0 Math Credit*

### **Algebra 2**

This course focuses on developing advanced Algebra skills. It uses an incremental spiral approach to assist the student in furthering their understanding of the second year algebra material. Some of the covered material will be both linear and nonlinear functions, complex

numbers, quadratic equations, radicals, and basic trigonometry. Attention will be given to mathematical reasoning. The course also covers geometry within the scope of Algebra. *1.0 Math Credit*

### **Business Math**

This course will provide an understanding of the basic concepts of mathematics as applied in business and personal finance. It includes a review of the fundamental mathematics operations using decimals, fractions, percent, ratio and proportion; mathematics concepts and skills in buying and selling, computing gross and net earnings, overtime and business data presentation, analysis and interpretation. Students will learn how individual choices directly influence occupational goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics covered will include income, money management, spending and credit, and personal budgeting. *1.0 Math Credit*

### **Geometry**

This course focuses on a hands-on approach to learning traditional geometry. The course encourages students to explore concepts and ideas of geometry by introducing physical examples of each new conjecture and geometric concepts. It also provides practice using these ideas and conjectures. In this course we will explore lines, planes, polygons, circles, tessellations, among others. *1.0 Math Credit*

### **AP Statistics**

Students will learn about the major concepts and tools used for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. This includes exploring statistics through discussion and activities, and designing surveys and experiments. Skills learned include: Selecting methods for collecting or analyzing data, Describing patterns, trends, associations, and relationships in data, Using probability and simulation to describe probability distributions and define uncertainty in statistical inference, using statistical reasoning to draw appropriate conclusions and justify claims. *1.0 Math credit*

## AP Pre-Calculus

The student will develop the understanding they need to resolve complex problems and functions and be ready to take Calculus by the conclusion of the course. In Pre-calculus, topics from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and mathematical analysis are interwoven to form a fully integrated course. Topics include permutations and combinations, trigonometric identities, inverse trigonometric functions, conic sections, graphs of sinusoids, rectangular and polar representation of complex numbers, De Moivre's theorem, matrices and determinants, the binomial theorem, and the rational roots theorem. *1.0 Math Credit*

## AP Calculus AB

This is a college-level calculus course designed to meet the Advanced Placement curricular requirements for Calculus AB (equivalent to a one-semester college course). The major topics of this course are limits, derivatives, integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Through a variety of hands-on activities and written exercises, we will investigate and analyze course topics using equations, graphs, tables, and words, with a particular emphasis on a conceptual understanding of calculus. Applications, in particular to solid geometry and physics, will be studied where appropriate. The course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of algebra, geometry, and pre-calculus. Unlike the regular Calculus course, AP Calculus AB emphasizes clear communication in addition to accurate calculations and has more hands-on activities. Students will be equipped and expected to take the AP Exam Calculus AB exam in May. *1.0 Math Credit*

## AP Calculus BC

Includes everything in AP Calculus AB (taught at an accelerated pace by means of review) and also topics taught in a Calc 2 course in college (taught at a regular pace.) The additional topics include advanced integration techniques, parametrics, polar, and series. When students take the AP Calculus BC exam in May, they will also get a subscore of Calculus AB level topics.

It's like taking two AP Exams for the price of one. *1.0 Math Credit*

## Discrete Mathematics

The main themes of Discrete Mathematics class are logic and proof, induction and recursion, combinatorics and discrete probability, algorithms and their analysis, discrete structures, and applications and modeling. Discrete mathematics describes processes that consist of a sequence of individual steps. This contrasts with calculus, which describes processes that change in a continuous fashion. Whereas the ideas of calculus were fundamental to the science and technology of the revolution, the ideas of discrete mathematics underlie the science and technology of the computer age. Students must have completed Pre-calculus to be eligible to take this course, but do not need Calculus. *1.0 Math Credit*

## Linear Algebra

Linear Algebra is a course usually taken by university sophomores and juniors. Typically such a student will have taken calculus, but this is not a prerequisite. The course begins with systems of linear equations, then covers matrix algebra, before taking up finite-dimensional vector spaces in full generality, and finally covering matrix representations of linear transformations, through diagonalization, change of basis and Jordan canonical form. Along the way, determinants and eigenvalues will be covered. *1.0 Math Credit*

## World Language

### Spanish 1

The student learns to use elementary Spanish in real-life situations. The course emphasizes spoken and written communication and stresses interpersonal relationships in meaningful cultural contexts. Students will study the diverse cultures within the Hispanic world. *1.0 World Language Credit*

## Spanish 2

The student expands vocabulary base and communicates in increasingly complex conversational situations. Reading for meaning and pleasure is emphasized, as is writing clearly and accurately. Grammar patterns are presented and practiced so that students are able to describe, as well as ask questions about people, things, events, and activities in the present, past, and future. The Student learns to use a variety of tenses in their writing. *1.0 World Language Credit*

## Spanish 3

This course builds on the foundations of Spanish 1 and 2. The student will review vocabulary and grammar acquired in previous years, while adding new content and gaining confidence in writing, reading, speaking, and listening to Spanish. A greater understanding of the Spanish-speaking world will be gained through class explorations, watching Spanish news, and a research project on a topic of interest. *1.0 World Language or Elective Credit; This course is college level only*

## Spanish 4

This course builds on the foundations of Spanish 1, 2, and 3. The student will review grammar learned in previous years, while adding new vocabulary from literature and learning grammatical nuances of the Spanish language. They will gain confidence in writing, reading, speaking, and listening to Spanish. They will also spend time investigating the Spanish-speaking world through class explorations, watching Spanish news, and a research project on a topic of interest. *1.0 World Language or Elective Credit; This course is college level only*

## Science

### Physical Science

Investigates the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Earth Science. Math skills will be called upon as force, motion, and energy are investigated. The properties of matter, atomic structure, and chemical reactions allow the student to acquire an

understanding of the world around them at a microscopic level. Electricity, magnetism, and waves will be discussed as the student learns how these are formed and the features that characterize them. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth, and the motions, characteristics, and forces in space. Prerequisite is Math Fundamentals; *1.0 Freshman Level Science Credit*

### Biology

Biology begins with a consideration of the living condition and discussion of the unique properties of living organisms that set life apart from the non-living. It continues with molecular and cellular biology, from which it moves logically into reproduction and genetics. An understanding of genetics gives meaning to organized variation, evolution and methods of scientific classification units dealing with microbiology and plant and animal phylum. *1.0 Sophomore Level Science Credit. Available for concurrent credit, "Introduction to Biology and Laboratory"*

### Chemistry

Chemistry is a laboratory science course intended to meet the entrance requirements for university admissions. This is a practical laboratory science course that focuses on the atom, atomic energy and structure, trends of the periodic table of elements, formation of compounds, chemical reactions and calculations, gas laws, and acids and bases, with emphasis on writing laboratory reports. *Prerequisites are Physical Science and Algebra 1. Currently enrolled in Geometry or Algebra 2; 1.0 Sophomore, Junior, or Senior Level Science Credit. Available for concurrent credit, "Chemistry for Citizens"*

### Environmental Science

This course covers the basics of the environment. We address the interconnectedness of Earth's systems and how humans interact with our planet. We will look at basic ecological concepts such as species and population ecology, biomes and biodiversity.

We will include abiotic concepts such as atmosphere and biogeochemical cycles, plate tectonics and basic geology. The water cycle will be covered in depth. Implications for human use of the globe, including the perspectives of Christian stewardship and dominion science will be evaluated. *1.0 Science Credit. Available for concurrent credit, "Environmental Science"*

### **AP Biology**

A deep dive into a college level experience and understanding of our living world. The Student will engage in real world experiments that pull them into genetics, biological diversity, zoology, fundamentals of animal taxonomy, microbiology, and preparations for the College Board AP exam. This course does teach evolution as a biological model as well as the modern "design" based model. This is an empirical science based course that addresses all theories of "life origins" and the critical review of all models. *Prerequisite is Biology or Chemistry; 1.0 Junior or Senior Level Science Credit*

### **Forensic Science**

Lab-based course which explores the scientific side of forensics through the application of solving crimes in pursuit of justice and respect for human life. This is an introductory-level, cross-disciplinary class that utilizes the scientific method and knowledge from diverse fields such as physics, chemistry, and biology. Students will collect and analyze evidence from mock crime-scenes, memory and eyewitness testimony, DNA, blood spatters, ballistics, drugs/toxicology, and fiber analysis. Please note the mature nature of the course (e.g., murder, death, and arson) prior to signing up. *1.0 Science Credit*

### **Anatomy & Physiology**

The student will be offered real world clinical exposure to human and comparative anatomy which includes several dissections. Other areas of study will include trauma medicine, laboratory medicine, exercise / sports medicine, virology, microbiology, medical/bioethics and more. Prerequisite is Biology or Chemistry; *1.0 Science Credit; this course is college level only.*

*Available for concurrent credit, "Human Biology and Laboratory"*

### **Physics**

This course introduces students to the basic concepts behind Physics, the branch of science that primarily studies matter, energy, and their interactions. Using the scientific method, physicists hypothesize relationships, design experiments, and complete tests to turn those hypotheses into theories. Students learn Physics is more than numbers and equations; it is about asking how and why things work and questioning everything we see in the natural world. Prerequisites are Physical Science, Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2. It is encouraged to enroll in Pre-Calculus or higher. *1.0 Junior or Senior Level Science Credit*

## **Fine Arts**

### **Rock Band 1**

For the beginner who has little or no knowledge of any musical instrument and is willing to be patient, develop consistent practice habits, take direction, and set reasonable and attainable goals. Several instruments will be introduced, such as, guitar, bass, drums, cajon, vocals, and/or keyboard (piano). Students will be exposed to basic music theory principles. Multiple genres of music will be explored and student interests will be taken into consideration. Group effort and cooperation is necessary as students learn playing together to produce songs. There is a minimum of one hour of practice per week outside of class and one performance each semester. The instructor will assess the student's growth on a particular instrument and will have the final decision on which instruments each student will play. *1.0 Fine Art or Elective Credit*

### **Rock Band 2**

A continuation of theories and principles from Rock Band 1 for the student who is developing in rhythm, time, reading charts, and producing songs competently with others in the band. There is a minimum of one hour of practice per week outside of class and one performance each semester. The instructor has final approval

on which instruments each student will play. *1.0 Fine Art or Elective Credit; Prerequisite Rock Band 1*

### **Rock Band 3**

A continuation of Rock Band 2 for the student with at least intermediate level of an instrument. Students are competently producing songs, and learning improvisation, with the intent toward songwriting. This class requires one performance each semester. A minimum of one hour of practice per week outside of class is required. The instructor has final approval on what instruments each student will play. *1.0 Fine Art or Elective Credit; Prerequisite is Rock Band 2*

### **Vocal Ensemble**

For the intermediate vocalist who has basic knowledge of intonation and rhythm, this will be supplemented with alternate harmonic study, music theory, ear training, and song form styles to enhance and grow their aptitude and ability as well as improvisation. The student will learn three-part vocal harmony, basic music theory principles, relationship between chords and melody, and how to competently compose and perform an original melody, as well as microphone technique, proper breathing, performance and team building principles. Group effort and cooperation is necessary to a successful program. This class requires one performance each semester. *1.0 Fine Art or Elective Credit; Prerequisite is Band 1, or by audition, or invitation*

### **Drama**

This course will discuss the history of drama from its inception to today. Students will learn proper dramatic terms and will engage in activities from the defining eras of theater. This class will require memorization and performance whether in class or for a larger audience. There will also be emphasis on the technical side of theater. This class teaches emotional maturity, public speaking, teamwork, confidence and so much more. Drama students will have the opportunity to be on the production team for the elementary school performances, produce their own skits and

learn acting skills such as improvisation, character choices and script analysis. *1.0 Fine Art or Elective Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit*

### **Theater Production**

This is an after school class that will meet twice a week from 6-8 pm where we will be producing a play each semester. Whether students want to act or work backstage, this class allows students to earn up to a 0.5 Art credit per Production they are involved in. *0.5 Fine Art or Elective Credit*

## **Visual Arts**

### **Art**

A variety of art media is introduced along with cultures, artists, and styles with an emphasis on drawing. This will be achieved by creating art work through its basic elements (line, shape, form, color, value, texture and space) and principles (emphasis, rhythm, pattern, harmony, variety, unity proportion, balance and motion). There will be a digital unit where students are able to create animation. Most lessons will have four components; aesthetic perception (understanding the use of the elements and principles), creative expression (the actual art projects), art heritage (art history background), and aesthetic valuing (critique of the finished work). We will be exploring drawing and painting through observational, historical, and cultural studies. *1.0 Art or Elective Credit*

### **Theater and Film**

Emphasizing techniques and history that have made it possible to bring magic to the stage and screen. We will learn everything from acting methods to film editing. Complete projects such as monologues and short films. Watch movies and theater productions that have influenced modern day media. *1.0 Art or Elective Credit*

### **Publication (Yearbook)**

Students will produce a yearbook that records the history of the school for the current school year, catering to the expectations of a diverse

consumer group, developing skills in life, journalism, photography, technology, communications, and business along the way. *1.0 Art, Elective, or Occupational Credit*

### Digital Media

Explores communication and storytelling through video, social media, and other school-related websites. Students will experience storyboarding, script writing, directing, filming, and editing. The class will also promote and chronicle athletic and social events pertaining to NCHS, which will involve writing and photography. Students will be taught digital skills that translate into all areas of ministry, business and life. No experience is necessary. *1.0 Art, Elective, or Occupational Credit*

## Physical Education

### Health

This course covers nutrition, exercise, and a guide to a healthy lifestyle with an approach to health and physical education relating the value of physical activity to the human body. The content of the course will be presented by utilizing lecture and laboratory sessions. The course emphasizes a “holistic” wellness approach to the individual regarding the five dimensions of wellness. *0.5 Health Credit; Available for Concurrent Credit, “Health Fundamentals of Wellness”*

### Extra-curricular Sports

Semester credit earned through NCHS sports participation. *0.5 Health and Fitness Credit for participation in each sport*

### Physical Education

Practice and develop skills in physical fitness which include the following: cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance. The goal by the end of the year is for each student to improve on baseline fitness tests through regular cardiovascular endurance training, muscular endurance training, and activities designed to increase current levels of fitness. Students will be introduced to life-long activities designed to

increase their likelihood of exercising in the future. *0.5 Physical Education Credit for semester*

### Weightlifting

The student will explore weight training movements designed to improve power and explosion. Our goal is that by the end of the year each student will improve their scores on baseline strength tests through regular weight training, muscular endurance training, and activities designed to increase current levels of fitness. Students will be introduced to lifts and exercises designed to increase their likelihood of weight training as a lifelong fitness hobby. Students will understand the benefits that regular exercise can provide for a person’s mental, physical, and social health. *0.5 Health and Fitness Credit per semester.*

## Computer Science

### Applied Technology

An introduction to learning computer design tools to produce files suitable for 3D printers and other computer controlled tools. Students will produce projects they create based on their computer designs. Students will be trained in safety procedures at the Lacey MakerSpace. Please note that there is a \$100 material and supplies fee for this course. *1.0 Elective or Occupational Credit*

### AP Computer Science Principles

Learn the principles that underlie the science of computing and develop the thinking skills that computer scientists use. You’ll work on your own and as part of a team to creatively address real-world issues using the tools and processes of computation. Skills learned will include making connections between concepts in computing, designing a program to solve a problem, applying abstractions in computation and modeling, analyzing computational work, communicating ideas about technology and computation, and working collaboratively to solve problems. *1.0 Elective or Occupational Credit*

## AP Computer Science A

Students will become familiar with the concepts and tools of computer science as you learn a subset of the Java programming language. You'll do hands-on work to design, write, and test computer programs that solve problems or accomplish tasks. Skills you will learn include: designing a program, developing the algorithms it needs, and writing code to implement them; testing program code and correcting errors, and documenting and explaining how program code works. *1.0 Elective or Occupational Credit; Prerequisite of Algebra 1*

## Electives and Occupational

### Leadership

Examines multiple ethical frameworks, principles, and theories as they apply to the study and practice of leadership. Real-world application of the most common leadership styles will be examined with a research-based approach through a Christian worldview. Students will apply principles in project-based learning contexts and event planning. Students must complete an application, meet our academic eligibility standards, and uphold our Code of Conduct. Students who are elected as ASB or class officers shall take the student leadership course. *1.0 Elective or Occupational Credit. Students may take a 2nd year of Leadership as an Elective Credit.*

### Psychology

The systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with major units of study, including biological bases of behavior, cognition, development, learning, social psychology, personality, and mental and physical health. Throughout the course, students apply psychological concepts and employ psychological research methods and data interpretation to evaluate claims, consider evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. The AP Psychology course is equivalent to an

introductory college-level psychology course. *1.0 Junior/Senior Level Elective Credit; This course is college level only. The college level course is "Introduction to Psychology"*

### Culinary Arts

Equips students for an entry-level position in the food service industry or to move on to a Postsecondary education in the field. Training will include Knife Skills, Food Safety & Sanitation Procedures, Kitchen Equipment Safety, Basic Kitchen Vocabulary, Food Science and Nutrition, Cooking & Baking methods / Techniques, Menu Planning, and Portion Control. Students will obtain Food Handler Permits, which costs \$10. *1.0 Elective or Occupational Credit*

### Speech and Debate

Cross-disciplinary course that utilizes public speaking, performing arts, research, and debate. Students will write and deliver multiple forms of speech: monologue, open interpretation, apologetic, and impromptu. Apologetics and Impromptu speeches help students to share their faith confidently, and will increase student's ability to structure essays. Students will employ valuable research skills, including citing evidence and finding reliable sources while offering and receiving constructive criticism. They will use creative thinking and logic to come up with cases and how to argue effectively and respectfully. Students will be prepared to compete in our Speech and Debate team, but it is not a requirement of the class for students to participate. It is also not a requirement for membership on the team to enroll in the class. *1.0 Elective or Art; This course is college level only. The college level course is "Communication Activities"*

## **NCHS & Beyond**

Washington State requirement preparing for post high school. The student will create a portfolio during their four-year high school experience. *0.25 Occupational Education Credit each year, for a total of 1 full credit at the end of 4 years*

## **Horticulture**

Discover how plants grow and how we can garden them. More specifically, students will identify five common families of food plants, parts of a plant with proper terminology, describe how air, light, water, and soil affect growth, and basic gardening techniques through plant propagation. *0.5 Elective or Occupational credit.*

## **Teacher Assistant**

This is a Pass/Fail course that can only be taken with teacher and administrator permission. *1.0 Elective credit or an Occupational Credit; Junior or Seniors only*

## **Field Experience**

This is a Pass/Fail course that allows a student to seek a mentor in a particular occupation of interest with which may be taken with teacher and administrator permission. *Credits earned depends on field experience hours; Elective credit or an Occupational Credit*

# ADDENDUMS

## Graduation Requirements

[View](#) our complete list of NCHS Graduation Requirements

## Concurrent Credit

[View](#) our concurrent credit suggested course sequence

## NCHS and Beyond

[View](#) NCHS and Beyond Checklist

[View](#) our Community Service Criteria

[View](#) our Community Service Ledger