

# Plaza Heights Christian Academy

## Middle School Course Descriptions

### **ENGLISH**

#### English 6 ENG060 (Grade 6, 2 semesters)

English 6 emphasizes traditional grammar as well as practice with essential reference skills. The elementary English materials provide a step-by-step introduction to the Writing Process for eight different types of writing assignments, such as personal narratives, newspaper editorials, historical fiction, and limericks. The student worktext provides guided practice, independent practice, chapter reviews, and cumulative reviews to reinforce key grammar concepts. Located at the back of the worktext, the Writing Handbook contains a thesaurus and writing models, and the Grammar Handbook contains a list of abbreviations, prepositions, homophones, and sentence diagramming models.

#### English 7 ENG070 (Grade 7, 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: English 6

Writing & Grammar 7 presents clear instruction in writing and grammar, including an overview of the Writing Process and many focused writing activities. Teach all eight parts of speech, the five basic sentence patterns, usage concepts such as agreement, and mechanics. Adjective clauses and complex sentences are also introduced. Writing projects include a biographical sketch, an in-class essay, a letter to the editor, and a book report.

#### English 8 ENG080 (Grade 6, 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: English 7

Writing & Grammar 8 presents clear instruction in writing and grammar, including an overview of the writing process and many focused writing activities. Writing & Grammar 8 reviews the eight parts of speech, five basic sentence patterns, usage, and mechanics, and discusses grammar elements such as participles, gerunds, and infinitives. Writing projects include a news report, a character profile, a short fable, and an in-class essay.

### **SOCIAL SCIENCE**

#### New World History and Geography SOC060 (Grade 6, 2 semester)

Identify the countries, mountain ranges, and rivers of the Western Hemisphere with New World History and Geography Maps and Activities. Label all the U.S. States, South American countries, Canadian provinces, and more with 44 map study exercises. Review exercises are included with the maps to help your child remember history concepts presented in the textbook.

#### World Studies SOC070 (Grade 7, 2 semesters)

World Studies is rewritten and updated to provide a fresh look at the civilizations of the world through the lens of a Christian worldview. This edition begins with a brief review of history from

Creation to the coming of Christ and progresses in a chronological journey around the world studying the ebb and flow of empires, cultures, Christianity, and world religions, concluding with an examination of the trends of the emerging 21st century.

#### The American Republic SOC080 (Grade 8, 2 semesters)

American Republic unfolds the history of the United States through richly detailed narrative and a colorful, engaging presentation. Starting with the discovery of the New World, the text traces the path of American history up to the present day. In addition to a historical account, American Republic demonstrates the distinctiveness of American values and government and emphasizes the importance of understanding and appreciating United States history.

### **MATHEMATICS**

#### Math 6 MAT060 (Grade 6, 2 semesters)

*Math 6* develops solid problem-solving skills in preparation for algebra, teaches methods of estimation, and familiarizes students with the use of calculators to solve math problems. The elementary math educational materials emphasize the application of math to real-life situations. In addition, manipulatives are used to assist the student with the math concepts presented.

#### Math 7 MAT070 (Grade 7, 2 semesters)

*Math 7* covers math concepts such as whole numbers, decimals, number theory, fractions, and an introduction to algebra and geometry. Problem solving skills and the applications of math to real life are emphasized.

#### Math 8 MAT080 (Grade 8, 2 semesters)

*Math 8 (Pre-Algebra)* eases the transition from arithmetic to algebra. Algebraic expressions and linear equations are applied throughout a thorough review of operations on integers, fractions, decimals, percents, and radicals. Students explore relations and functions using equations, tables, and graphs. Chapters on statistics and geometry extend foundational concepts in preparation for high school courses. Problem-solving and real-life uses of math are featured in each chapter. Dominion through Math exercises regularly illustrate how mathematics can be used to manage God's creation to His glory.

#### Algebra 1 MAT101 (1 Unit, Grade 8-9 2 semesters)

Prerequisite: teacher recommendation

Algebra 1 covers all topics in a first-year algebra course, from proofs, statistics and probability to algebra-based real-world problems. Students study data, patterns, and relations and express their findings through equations and functions. Students begin developing the more complex understanding required for advanced mathematics. This course should be followed by Geometry and students may later wish to consider advanced mathematics courses.

## **SCIENCE**

Science 6 SCI060 (Grade 6, 2 semesters)

Science 6 reveals the incredible intricacies of cells and organisms, matter and energy, astronomy, heredity, the nervous system, and the immune system. This elementary science educational materials includes exciting, but manageable science experiments and science projects.

Life Science SCI070 (Grade 7, 2 semesters)

Life Science surveys the structures and functions of living things such as plants, animals, and human beings. All these concepts are unfolded as a quest to understand the life that God has created. Case studies, webquests, lab activities, ethics boxes, and questions help students think like scientists and see life science from a biblical perspective

Earth Science SCI080 (Grade 8, 2 semesters)

Earth Science guides students in an examination of God's handiwork. Affirming the young earth creationist view of the Earth's history and disproving the evolutionary views pervading the scientific community and modern culture, the science educational materials presents an engaging study of scientific philosophies and models, meteorology, geology, and oceanography.

## **PRACTICAL ARTS** (These classes will show up as Explo 6, 7, 8)

Keyboarding COM060, COM070, COM080 (Grade 6-8, 1 semester)

This course is designed to teach students proper typing technique and general computer usage. The goal is to increase accuracy and words-per-minute rate.

Study Skills COM060, COM070, COM080 (Grade 6-8, 1 semester)

The Study Skills program is designed to assist students learn, understand, and reinforce concepts and/or assignments presented in the general curriculum. Students have the opportunity to develop and strengthen good study habits and learning strategies through various instructional methods and strategies.

Computer Science Discoveries COM090 (Grade 7-8, 2 semesters)

Computer Science Discoveries (CS Discoveries) is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun.

## **FINE ARTS**

Choir CHO060, CHO070, CHO080 (Grade 6-8, 1 semester)

Choir is a performing group which explores all aspects of singing together, including the physical process of vocal production as well as the study of sacred and secular literature, music

theory, and music appreciation. This group is expected to perform in various programs and district music competitions.

**Music Appreciation** MUS060, MUS070, MUS080 (Grade 6-8, 1 semester)

This course studies many different aspects of music including history, composers, theory, various compositions, musical instruments, and current trends in music.

**Band** BAN090 (Grade 6-8, 1 semester)

Band is a performing group made up of woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Instrumentalists work on technical studies geared for their particular instruments. A variety of music literature is learned. This group is expected to perform in various programs and district music competitions.

**Art** ART060, ART070, ART080 (Grade 6-8, 2 semesters)

This class is designed to introduce the students to a variety of art skills including painting, drawing, and sculpting. They also learn shading techniques and paint-mixing techniques.

**Drama** DRA090 (Grade 6-8, 2 semesters)

Drama has one major production develops students' abilities in acting, stage presence, music, teamwork, commitment and technical skills. Improvisation, comedy techniques, pantomimes, auditioning, and acting techniques are a few of the content areas explored. The course can be taken multiple times with new material and focus each year.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

**Physical Education** GPE060, GPE070, GPE080 (Grade 6-8, 2 semesters)

This course is designed to cover basic sports and skills. Units may include basketball, volleyball, football, soccer, hockey, and personal fitness.

**Health** HEA090 (Grade 7-8, 2 semesters)

This course focuses on total health covering the eleven systems of the body, disease, emotional and spiritual health, and safety.

## **BIBLE**

**Winning the Race** BIB060 (Grade 6, 2 semesters)

In Winning the Race, Students will discover how various Bible characters strove to win the race that God set for them. This study also presents an overview of New Testament doctrine, including the past, present, and future work of Christ.

**Wise Up** BIB070 (Grade 7, 2 semesters)

In middle school, young people face more and more decisions on their own. Soon they find that their new freedoms are followed by greater responsibility and higher expectations. Wise Up encourages

your students to study the wisdom of God in Proverbs, allowing Him to shape their lives into the image of His Son, Christ.

**Route 66 BIB080 (Grade 8, 2 Semester)**

This study provides a basic introduction to the structure and themes of the Word of God. As students journey through this fast-moving survey, they will discover truths and applications that God placed in each book of the Bible. God's gracious work is clear—from creation to the cross to the consummation of time.