

PHCA High School Course Catalog



*To teach biblical truth in an environment of academic excellence
that prepares students to impact the world for Christ.*

Plaza Heights Christian Academy
1500 SW Clark Road
Blue Springs, MO 64015

(816)228-0670

School Information

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www.plazaheightschristianacademy.org

Mission Statement

The mission of PHCA is to teach Biblical truth in an environment of academic excellence that prepares students to impact the world for Christ.

School Sponsorship and Affiliation

Plaza Heights Christian Academy is a non-denominational, independent Christian school. PHCA is accredited through the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), Cognia, and is a member of the Great Plains Alliance of Christian Schools (GPACS).

Identifying Information

Plaza Heights Christian Academy is an independent, non-denominational, private Christian school that serves the Blue Springs and surrounding areas. We are dedicated to striving toward academic excellence as we teach from a Christ-centered perspective.

We believe the promises and commands God gives us in His Word. We believe “children are a heritage from the Lord” as it says in Psalm 1:27. We believe you should impress God’s commandments and values on your children and Plaza Heights Christian Academy desires to come alongside with parents to fulfill the instruction of “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

(Discrimination clause: Since God’s love extends to all people, Plaza Heights Christian Academy welcomes and encourages all children regardless of sex, race, color, nationality or ethnic origin to apply for admission, financial aid, and any/all programs of the school and does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin in the administration of any program of the school.)

Schedule Changes

All changes in student schedules are to be made within the first two days after the start of each semester. Students need parent, teacher, counselor, and administrator approval to change classes. The required form can be found in the counselor's office.

Course Offerings

Not all courses listed in this handbook are offered each year. Courses that are marked with an asterisk () denote courses that MAY NOT be offered each year.*

Additional Course Offerings

In the event a course is not offered or a student is unable to take a course at its offer time, additional courses are offered via Bob Jones University & Ignitia. These courses come at an additional cost of \$150 to the student and will be taken as an online course.

*Dual Credit and AP opportunities are available through several different avenues. Please speak with the guidance counselor regarding any interest in either Dual Credit or AP courses we may be offering.

English Language Arts

Students will glorify God by reading and writing fluently with expression to demonstrate an understanding of God's word in order to apply it to their lives.

Grammar and Composition

Length: 1 year

Text: *Fundamentals of Literature* (2nd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Grammar and Composition builds on skills acquired in middle school English and adds dictionary skills, library skills, and study skills. Students will focus on grammatical concepts within the writing process by writing assignments such as: compare/contrast, personal narrative, research essay, and a personal response to literature. Students will learn to be a discerning reader by focusing on the fundamentals of literature: conflict, character, theme, structure, point of view, and moral tone. Contemporary and classic American, British, and world authors will be studied in four genres: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. A focus will be placed on critical thinking skills through Scripture application.

World Literature

Length: 1 year

Text: *Elements of Literature* (2nd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

World Literature focuses on reading, grammar, and writing as well as further development of critical thinking skills through the analysis of various selections from all literary genres from authors around the world. Significant review and refinement of the writing process will occur as well. Various novel studies and papers will be assigned throughout the year. A formal research paper is also required.

American Literature

Length: 1 year

Text: *American Literature* (3rd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

American Literature focuses on the themes and motifs in several major American literary works including: fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction from the beginning of America to the present. Students will be responsible for several essays, responses to literature, and poetry selections. Through these, revision and editing skills will be strengthened. A formal research paper is also required.

British Literature**Length: 1 year****Text: *British Literature* (3rd Ed) - Bob Jones Press**

British Literature focuses on a small selection of literature from the earliest British/English texts. Students will develop the reading and writing skills needed to read college-level texts and write in college-level writing courses. A small portion of this class will be spent on creative writing through which students will be taught concision through descriptive writing. A formal research paper is also required.

*** Creative Writing****Length: 1 semester****Text: *The St. Martin's Guide to Writing***

Because of the close relationship between the ability to read critically and the ability to write intelligently, Creative Writing combines reading instruction with writing instruction. Over the course of the year, students will consider several genres as readers and writers. Analytical activities and commentaries provide students with a comprehensive rhetorical introduction that prepares them to write an essay of their own in each genre.

Science

Students will reason from a scientific standpoint recognizing that God is Ultimate Truth who reveals Himself through His creation.

Biology

Length: 1 year

Text: *Biology* (4th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Biology students is a combination of the study of life and God's creation. This course covers topics ranging from cell study to complex interactions. There will be a focus on cell biology, genetics, origins, and ecology. A variety of laboratory equipment will be used such as: microscopes, dissection equipment, laboratory glassware, and a variety of models.

Physical Science

Length: 1 year

Text: *Physical Science* (6th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Physical Science focuses on the fundamental concepts of chemistry and physics. Areas of study and activities include: laboratory skills, problem solving, scientific method, scientific measurement, mechanics, electromagnetism, periodic phenomena, and an introduction to chemistry.

Chemistry

Length: 1 year

Text: *Chemistry* (4th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Chemistry is a study of the materials in God's creation and the changes that they undergo when they interact. This course will cover atomic structure, the periodic table, molecular structure, nomenclature, chemical reactions, and stoichiometry. Laboratory work will be used to help illustrate these principles. (Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I).

*** Environmental Science**

Length: 1 year

Text: *Environmental Science* - Suburban Science

Students learn about major environmental issues in modern society. Units cover the four spheres of the earth (lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere), and human impacts on the environment.

*** Physics**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Physics* (3rd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Physics provides a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics while practicing and developing problem-solving skills and completing analysis in the laboratory. The main areas of study include: motion, energy, and modern physics. (Prerequisite: Successful completion of 2 years of high school algebra with a B or above).

*** Anatomy and Physiology**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Body by Design* - Master Books

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology

Anatomy and Physiology provides information over the structure and function of the different systems in the human body. Those students interested in health professions are introduced to the concepts which will provide them a foundation for further studies. Students will study and create models and participate in lab dissection.

Social Studies

Students will see God's sovereignty and providence through people and events in history.

American Government

Length: 1 year

Text: *American Government* (4th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

American Government is designed to equip students with the knowledge and thinking skills necessary to understand the structure of the United States government and the politics which drive it. Students will see that government is an important part of being an American citizen and understand that government is included in virtually every day of one's life.

World History

Length: 1 year

Text: *World History* (5th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

World History begins with creation and continues to the present day. Through notes, reading assignments, maps, primary documents, and current events, students gain an understanding of the world views throughout history.

American History

Length: 1 year

Text: *United States History* (5th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

American History is explored from a Christian worldview beginning with the first European settlers and ending with the modern era. The course touches on the various people groups and cultures who made up the North Americans. There is an emphasis on why things happened and how the world view motivated historical decisions.

*** Sociology**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Sociology: A Christian Approach for Changing the World*

Sociology covers the development, structure, and functioning of human society from a Christian perspective. As a part of the culture study, students will analyze various

theories of sociology, group dynamics, education, and discrimination specifically considering inequality regarding age, gender, and ethnicity.

*** Economics**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Economics: Work & Prosperity* (Abeka Book)

Economics uses various means to teach students about the production, consumption, and transfer of wealth through a Christian worldview. This course covers economics terms and ideas, money, the pros and cons of various types of economic systems, the benefits of the free market, and the importance of financial stability in the world and personal finance.

*** Civil War**

Length: 1 semester

Civil War highlights the various points of view in regard to the Civil War. An understanding of the homefront and battlefield is developed. The course emphasizes major battles and highlights those taking place in Missouri as well as the major leaders in these conflicts.

*** Cold War**

Length: 1 semester

Cold War covers the origins of communism and the Cold War chronologically with an in-depth look at the Berlin Wall, Korean Conflict, and Vietnam War. The course includes notes, primary resources, analysis of propaganda, and videos. Students will be able to explain the inherent differences between the free world and life behind the “Iron Curtain”.

Math

Students will recognize the precision language of God's creation language through mathematical discovery acknowledging God as the source of Absolute Truth.

Algebra I

Length: 1 year

Text: *Algebra I* (4th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Algebra I is the foundation for high school mathematics. This course focuses on the structure of the real number system. The course introduces the student to the basic structure of Algebra through the use and application of real numbers, inequalities, factoring, operations with polynomials, linear and quadratic equations, and graphs. Appropriate technology will be used to enhance mathematical understanding and problem-solving skills.

Geometry

Length: 1 year

Text: *Geometry* (4th Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Geometry is a course designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. Areas of study include tools and language of geometry, reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, relationships within triangles, polygons and quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles and trigonometry, transformations, surface area and volume, circles, and probability. Emphasis will be placed on developing critical thinking skills as they relate to logical reasoning and argument.

Algebra II

Length: 1 year

Text: *Algebra II* (3rd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Algebra II will provide a review of advanced algebraic concepts through the study of functions, families of functions, equations, inequalities, polynomials, rational and radical equations, quadratic equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, complex numbers, and sequences and series. Emphasis will be placed on practical applications and modeling throughout the course.

*** Pre-Calculus**

Length: 1 year

Text: *Pre-Calculus* (2nd Ed) - Bob Jones Press

Pre-Calculus combines the previous study of algebra, geometry, and mathematical functions into a preparatory course for calculus or other college math. The students will study the properties and graphs of trigonometric, polynomial, rational, inverse, exponential, and logarithmic function, polar coordinates, complex numbers, conic sections, matrices, vectors, sequences, series, and limits. Students will then begin analytic geometry and calculus concepts such as limits, derivatives, and integrals.

*** Advanced Algebra**

Length: 1 year

Text:

This course is designed for students who want or need more instruction in the area of algebra. Advanced Algebra will expand upon concepts learned in previous courses. This course will prepare the students for college-level work in mathematics. The suggested calculator is TI-83 Plus or TI-84.

*** College Algebra**

Length: 1 year

Text: Course given through affiliated college/university

A sophisticated study of relations, functions and their graphs, ratios, proportion, variation, linear equations, problem solving, quadratic and quadratic form equations, theory of higher degree equations, systems of equations, inequalities, and determinants. Students may need to have 3.0 or a 21 on the ACT Composite OR a particular score on the math portion to be considered for this class. One (1) honor point will be earned for the successful completion of this class. College credit will be billed and paid through the cooperating college business office. If a student elects to take the dual credit class for no college credit, he/she must still meet the institution's requirements. Suggested calculator is TI-83 Plus or TI-84. Three (3) hours dual credit available for qualified students if the institution's criteria are met.

*** Trigonometry**

Length: 1 year

Text:

A Pre-Calculus course for the college bound student. The course includes a strong emphasis on circular and triangular trigonometric functions, graphs of trigonometric functions and identities and trigonometric equations, polar coordinates, and vectors.

Bible

Students will know what they believe about God's truth and why they believe in order to discern and personally apply Scripture.

New Testament Survey

Length: 1 year

Text: *Route 66 Travel Through the Bible - Positive Action*

We will survey the New Testament books of Matthew to Revelation. This class will explore the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the early church, Paul's journeys and letters, and prophecy yet to come. Special emphasis will be given to how to apply present day what we learn from our study.

Doctrine

Length: 1 year

Text: *Bible Doctrines for a Biblical Worldview (1st Ed) - Bob Jones Press*

Teaches the scriptural basis for the major doctrines - God's Word, God (the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), salvation, Israel and the church, and last things - so students can formulate their beliefs and apply those beliefs to their lives to develop values.

Apologetics

Length: 1 year

Text: *Understanding the Faith - Summit Ministries*

This class is a survey of Christian apologetics (defense of the faith). We will answer the question, "does the Bible have authority in a world committed to relative truth?" We will wade into the middle of the controversy of relative truth versus objective truth with topics like:

1. Is God Christian?
2. Isn't Claiming Truth Intolerant?
3. Isn't Christianity Anti-Science?
4. Why is There Evil and Suffering?

*** Revelation**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *The Book of Revelation* - Hilton Sutton

Revelation will explore our study of that book and the end times. We will look at various understandings and examine each.

*** Genesis**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Genesis* - Abeka

Genesis will explore our study of the book of beginnings. Special emphasis will be given to chapters 1-11 concerning creation, the fall, the flood, and the Tower of Babel.

*** Mastering Bible Study Skills**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Mastering Bible Study Skills* - Purposeful Design

To develop into mature Christians, students need to understand how to correctly handle the written Word of God. We will learn by instruction and practice how to read the Bible knowledgeably, interpret it accurately, and apply it appropriately.

*** Ethics**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Ethics* - Bob Jones Press

Encourages students to grow in character and biblical thinking so they can make wise ethical choices and defend the Christian faith from a biblical worldview. Students will compare different systems of ethics, learn to defend biblical Christianity, and approach ethics in a way that empowers growth and discernment.

*** Acts**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *The book of Acts* - Bible

This class will explore the early church and the life of Paul specifically.

*** Evangelism/Discipleship**

Length: 1 semester

This class will cover the essential practices of being an active Christian. We will explore what the Bible says about why and how we are to share our faith and become even greater followers of Christ.

Health

Students will gain knowledge about God's design and creation of the human body as well as how He designed it to grow and properly develop physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally.

High School Health

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Total Health: Choices for Winning Lifestyle - Purposeful Design*

Health provides students with a general overview of the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual aspects of health in order to better understand how each section relates to and affects the whole. Students engage with educational videos from Ted Ed as well as clips from sermons, spoken word, testimonials, and research. Students participate in group projects as well as group presentations. Throughout the duration of the class, students will write several research papers to better understand the material covered.

Physical Education

Students will receive opportunities to help develop a passion for lifelong fitness.

High School PE

Length: 1 semester

Text: Based off the Missouri State Standards

Physical education courses in the middle and high school provide students with opportunities to incorporate physical activity and lifelong leisure activities into their lifestyle through game play and practice. Focus units include, but are not limited to: badminton, pickleball, volleyball, floor hockey, and kickball. Other team sports will be incorporated as non-competitive activities. Skills and common concepts of each lifelong activity will be presented and developed through practice and match play.

*** Weightlifting**

Length: 1 semester

This beginning weightlifting course is designed to provide each student with the knowledge needed to understand the importance of strength and fitness training. Students will participate daily in a strength and conditioning program. While participating in this resistance training program, students will learn about related elements of anatomy and appropriate safety skills. Students will have the opportunity to learn the importance of setting goals for personal improvement and achievement and will leave the class with an understanding of how to integrate resistance training, flexibility and plyometric principles into their personal health and fitness routine.

World Languages

Students will acquire communication skills and valuable cultural perspectives to enhance their usefulness in God's service both in their own community and abroad.

Spanish I

Length: 1 year

Text: *Avancemos!* Level 1 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Spanish I utilizes multiple oral and written language acquisition techniques to introduce students to the language. Basic grammar structures will be taught. Students will be able to formulate and answer questions and compose original dialogues in Spanish. Students will learn about opportunities they have to broaden their ministries for the Lord beyond their own culture while they learn about the culture of Spanish speaking countries.

Spanish II

Length: 1 year

Text: *Avancemos!* Level 2 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Spanish II is a high-beginning to low-intermediate study of the Spanish language and its many cultures. This course builds upon the vocabulary and grammar concepts learned in Spanish I. In the beginning of the course, basic vocabulary and grammar learned in Spanish I are reviewed before proceeding with the instruction of new concepts in both of these areas. In addition to broadening their knowledge of the Spanish language, students will also gain deeper insight into the many cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Recognizing that students are uniquely designed to communicate with God, fellowship with each other, and spread the gospel, this course aims to enhance a student's usefulness in God's service, in addition to improving his/her vocational opportunities.

*** Spanish III**

Length: 1 year

Text: *Avancemos!* Level 3 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Spanish III is an intermediate study of the Spanish language and its many cultures. In addition to recycling the basic grammar learned in Spanish I and II, new vocabulary and more complex grammatical structures will be learned through thematic units. Emphasis

is placed on the four basic skills: speaking, writing, reading, and listening with the goal of improving students' comprehension and expression of opinions and concepts. Students will also continue to learn about various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures including traditions/customs, nuances, and dialectal differences. Recognizing that students are uniquely designed to communicate with God, fellowship with each other, and spread the gospel, this course aims to enhance a student's usefulness in God's service in addition to improving his/her vocational opportunities.

*** French I**

Length: 1 year

Text: *Bien dit!* Level 1 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

French I students will engage in interactive cultural experiences such as creating a French dessert or exploring the greater Francophone world through 3D virtual reality field trips. This course is based on communication, connections, comparisons, and communities. These will be emphasized through grammar, vocabulary, and solid pedagogy.

*** French II**

Length: 1 year

Text: *Bien dit!* Level 2 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

French II picks up where French I leaves off. Students will continue their study of French by further expanding their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. Students will not only begin to comprehend listening and reading passages more fully, but they also start to express themselves more meaningfully in both speaking and writing. The structure of the course includes vocabulary, grammar, and cultural components. Students will practice the skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing by using authentic resources and real-world based activities.

Fine Arts

Students will discover the unique expression and application of their gifts, mirroring God's creativity, and empowering ambassadors who are artistically prepared to be salt and light in their generation.

High School Concert Choir

Length: 1 year

High School Concert Choir is a mixed ensemble which meets daily. Students learn to use their vocal instrument to create a correct and pleasing singing sound. The core curriculum emphasizes the basics of vocal technique, sight reading, music theory, and music history. Chorus also offers opportunities for students to develop team building and leadership skills. This is a performance-based class. Students will have many opportunities to excel in musical performances during annual concerts, various special events, music festivals, and contests. Students will continue to develop an understanding and appreciation of the differences in music from other cultures and the connections music brings to people, places, and time. The topics in this class will provide a strong basis for the continuation of musical skills.

Worship Team

Length: 1 year

Worship team is a daily class responsible for leading worship during weekly chapel services. This class is open to any 7-12th grade student.

*** High School Band**

Length: 1 year

High School Band is a continuation level course for students with previous band experience. Emphasis is on the advancement of instrument technique, the further development of ensemble performance skills, and rehearsal and performance of intermediate level band music.

*** Music Appreciation**

Length: 1 semester

Music Appreciation is an introductory course to music. Students will explore music's various functionalities in order to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for all types of music. The course begins by examining basic music literacy and core musical elements such as melody, rhythm harmony, form, and texture.

Studio Art

Length: 1 Semester

In this course, students will create drawings, paintings, sculptures, collages, and prints while exploring the art of other cultures and times. Studio art is designed to be an in-depth exposure to creating and studying art fundamentals. In class, students will learn about various media of art while learning the elements of art and design. Students will continue to hone their skills through the exploration of visual journals throughout the semester. Students will develop their skills in various media of art, gain confidence in talking about and creating works of art, learn more about themselves through art, and expand their knowledge of artists and art historical trends and periods. Through the completion of this course, students will be able to take other advanced art classes.

*** Photography**

Length: 1 semester

In this course, students will have a chance to explore topics that focus on their interests through two dimensions, with an emphasis on photography. This not only involves learning the creative side of photography, but includes the technical side of photography as well. Students will learn how to use a DSLR camera in manual mode, how to create art based on the elements of photography, and how to create a photography journal or blog to share their photos. In photography, students will learn to develop their skills in communicating visually and verbally through photography, how to gain confidence in talking about and creating works of art in photography, learn more about themselves through art, and expand their knowledge of artist and art historical trends and periods.

*** Painting**

Length: 1 semester

In this course, students will explore and experience a variety of painting techniques, media, and historical approaches to art. Painting is a problem-solving course dealing with form, color, line, and texture (figurative and abstract). Through the use of the world outside the classroom, models, drawings, photographs, and imagination, students interpret and express the painter's world in a variety of materials including: acrylic and tempera paint, watercolor, ink, paper, and canvas as well as a variety of experimental

media. Through this course, students will learn the cultivation of creativity and the art-making process, students will develop their own individual and unique artistic voice, and the students will learn the elements of art and principles of design.

Fiber Arts

Length: 1 semester

This is a hands-on course that will give students the opportunity to have a creative, in-depth experience working with mixed media, fibers (yarn, rope, twine, felt), and unconventional materials as artistic mediums. Students will learn about fiber art and create artworks on a loom, dye their own textiles, and learn cultural, historic, and aesthetic aspects of these processes, as well as gain experiences in art criticism. Students will also learn about mixed media techniques and create mixed media artworks with a variety of media including patin, collage, ink, found objects, and natural materials. Students will be encouraged to create and develop their own personal artistic style within their body of work.

*** Drawing**

Length: 1 semester

This is an introductory drawing course that explores materials, composition, and expressive techniques in drawing. The elements and principles of design are utilized in addition to multiple rendering/compositional practices to impress an understanding of successful art. Students will further develop and expand their skills needed for resting successful and meaningful drawings through the creation of multiple artworks. Composition, observation, and rendering skills will be emphasized as students explore a range of drawing media. The structure of the class will consist of guided exercises, class projects, group discussions, and critiques.

*** Art History**

Length: 1 year

This course will provide an in-depth study of art history and basic art concepts. Students will examine a variety of aspects of art history including themes and purposes of art; styles of art; the elements of art; design principles; two-dimensional media; western and non-western art history. Art history is a part of the fine arts subject in which students will be given exposure to the community through museums, galleries, and local artists. Students will participate in group discussions about art history and art concepts. Students will also have a working knowledge of media through study and not creation. This course is not a course where students create art but rather discuss art.

Practical Arts

Students will develop the Biblical application of wise stewardship in real-world situations and choices such as life skills, problem solving, and communication technologies.

*** Fashion Design**

Length: 1 semester

In this course, students will obtain a foundation of the knowledge needed for more advanced studies of fashion apparel, textiles, or interior design. Students will cover the basics of the physical, psychological, social, and cultural reasons for how we dress and where we live, the elements and principles of design, textiles, and fabric construction and selection for apparel and home use, introductory sewing skills that are applied in a variety of samples and apparel and home use, introductory sewing skills that are applied in a variety of samples and apparel or home goods projects. Self-initiative, motivation, time management, planning, independent work, following directions, and evaluating are crucial skills in this course where art, communication, mathematics, science, and technology are applied. Students are responsible for sewing supplies and fabric for class projects.

*** Foods**

Length: 1 semester

Foods includes instruction in nutrition, food preparation, consumerism, and food presentation. Students are introduced to the concepts of safety and sanitation; kitchen tool selection, care, storage, and proper usage; measurements, nutrition, baking basics, and simple food preparation. Major topics covered include: kitchen safety and sanitation, nutrition, reading recipes, standard cooking measurements, and baking.

*** Personal Finance**

Length: 1 semester

Text: *Foundations in Personal Finance* (Ramsey Publications)

Foundations in Personal Finance - High School Edition is a complete, turnkey curriculum designed to fully equip students with everything they need for a dynamic classroom experience. Lessons are delivered via video by Dave Ramsey and his team of experts, blended learnings, and a TestGen computerized test bank. In addition, more than 100 activities are included which focus on providing 21st century personal finance knowledge and skills in a student-centered, competency-based approach to learning.

*** Introduction to Business**

Length: 1 semester

This course is designed as an introductory class to learn general business concepts that are relevant to the future workforce and business leaders. Students will explore: business ownership, career options, run a virtual business, personal banking, checking accounts, spending plans, taxes, and insurance.

*** Typing**

Length: 1 semester

Text: www.edutyping.com

In addition to basic typing skills, this course includes units on professionalism in the workplace, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, reinforcement units, and a practice library.

*** Life Skills**

Length: 1 semester

This elective is designed to increase students' knowledge of and ability in using the skills necessary for everyday living. Life Skills emphasizes defining personal values, goal-setting and planning, and solving problems.

Electives

*** High School Theater**

Length: 1 year

High School Theater is a drama course that will strengthen and enhance skills in ensemble work/team work, movement, voice, scene and play analysis, scene work, objectives, obstacles, and acting techniques, improvisational skills, character analysis and performance, monologues, duet acts, audition skills, theater etiquette, career paths, designing, and directing. Content is varied over a period of years, so students can repeat the course, building on prior knowledge and advance in confidence, theater knowledge, and skill.

*** High School Speech**

Length: 1 semester

High School Speech is a course which requires students to demonstrate an understanding and application of the techniques used in formal public speaking including: listening skills, speech preparation, and research methods. Activities involve preparing speeches to inform, entertain, and persuade as well as panel discussion and oral interpretations of literature.

*** High School Debate**

Length: 1 semester

Students will learn how to speak effectively to a variety of audiences and situations, taking advantage of effective rhetorical techniques derived from strong research and analysis. They will use decisive, relevant body language to help meet their appropriate goals for each speech. They will hone their skills at giving helpful, constructive feedback, learning how to affirm and assist their peers. They also will practice using media and other visual aids, as well as research for specific information from impressive academic sources to both give and analyze speeches.

*** ACT Prep**

Length: 1 semester

Text: Magoosh

The ACT Prep course will emphasize ACT test-taking strategies, specifically math skills, language skills, reading skills, and science-reasoning skills. Students will study and practice listening and note taking techniques, test taking strategies, questioning and thinking skills, information retrieval, pre-ACT test practice, memory technique, reading in the context areas, and vocabulary development.

Yearbook

Length: 1 year

Yearbook is a production-based course that results in the creation of the UPROAR yearbook. The yearbook staff will learn to work efficiently and effectively while being cooperative, punctual, professional, creative, and productive. Students are responsible for taking digital photos, conducting interviews, managing clerical operations, making announcements, maintaining signage while composing, designing, and editing all elements of text, graphic art, and digital photography layouts. This course may require students to be available outside of regular class hours to attend extra-curricular activities. Students are expected to be organized, motivated, and possess strong reading and writing skills. They will also become familiar with the online software required to publish the yearbook.

*** Computer Science**

Length: 1 semester

This course will teach a foundation to computer science and basic programming. Students will spend time in the classroom discussing computer science as well as individual time practicing programming.

