

Middle School and High School Course Descriptions

Scope and Sequence

OVERVIEW

EPIC Homeschool academy offers a variety of academic and enrichment style classes for middle and high school levels. All classes taken at the high school levels are designed to be used towards transcript credit, however the final authority and grade is up to the parent. Loop schedule refers to how often EPIC offers the class and when the next year the class is slated to be on the schedule. Curriculum, when known, is listed. Scheduling, curricula, and instructors subject to change.

OVERALL EXPECTATIONS

1. An academic class (most offered at this level) averages **60 minutes per day of homework** plus projects. Some classes like general art or PE do not typically have homework.
2. **Parents are encouraged to hold their child accountable** to course work, partner with teacher/coaches, and hold final authority in issuing transcript grade.
3. All students are expected to have **access to the internet**, a printer, and Google items (docs, sheets, slides, etc).
4. Grading is teacher preference, but is typically done on a **10+/- point scale** and letter grades. There are no classes with weighted grades (ie: AP bonus)

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ART COURSES

GENERAL ART

In MS/HS Art Class, we will explore different mediums and styles to create a wide variety of pieces, all "wall hanging worthy". Rather than giving step by step "how tos", different techniques will be demonstrated and then space will be given for students to explore, so no two works will be alike! We also will examine various famous artists and art movements, both present and historical, so students also learn some basic art history.

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 6-12

Loop Schedule: Offered every year with projects looping every 3 years

Credits: None

2020/2021: Offered 1st Hour or 4th Hour.

Instructor: Heather Sterenburg

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

SPANISH

This class will cover vocabulary and cultural studies, as well as a study of Spanish grammar and sentence structure. We will employ the use of songs, games, and other activities to solidify the lessons as well as to make learning fun! Your student will learn how to properly compose Spanish sentences and engage in conversation. This class will include many activities to allow your child to practice speaking the Spanish that they are learning to read and write, and will help them grow in confidence as Spanish-speakers.

INTRO TO SPANISH

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 6-8 (9th graders with no experience may benefit from Intro)

Loop Schedule: Every year with content spanning 2 years. We recommend students take 1-2 years of Intro to Spanish before Spanish 1

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH

Prerequisites: None, Intro recommended

Grade Target: 9-12 (Middle Schoolers can request if taken Intro/equivalent)

Loop Schedule: Looping schedule for two years. Offered every year.

Credits: 1 Foreign Language

2020/2021: Offered 3rd Hour

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

ASL is a rich and complex language. Recently declared as an official language and recognized across the United States as a foreign language, more and more high school teachers across the country are teaching ASL as an elective. This class is designed to prepare individuals to successfully interact with ASL users. Lessons are structured around language needed for common-life situations, and examples are presented in the form of dialogue coupled with grammar and vocabulary instruction. Information is also included about the culture and history of the Deaf community in the United States.

INTRO TO ASL

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 6-8

Loop Schedule: Offered every year. New topics and vocabulary every two years:

Year A (2020/2021, 2022/2023): The Basics, Things, People, Foods & Eating, Descriptions, Numbers/Money/Math, Time/Days/Seasons

Year B (2021/2022, 2023/2024): Places, Health & Survival, Recreation, Actions, Being & Feeling, Religion & Communication, Miscellaneous

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

Instructor: Sonja Harrison

Curriculum: Signing: How to Speak With Your Hands by Elaine Costello (½ of the curriculum each year)

ASL 1

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 9-12

Loop Schedule: Every Year

Credits: 1 Foreign Language

2020/2021: Offered 3rd Hour

Instructor: Sonja Harrison

Curriculum: Master ASL! Level 1

ASL 2

Currently, we do not offer a second year of ASL, but you can contact instructor Sonja Harrison at terpharrison@gmail.com for private tutoring.

SCIENCE COURSES

6th GRADE LIFE SCIENCE

Students will explore the area of life science including water, macroinvertebrates, animal kingdoms, botany, cells, and human anatomy. Hands-on experiences in the classroom springboard coursework and projects to be done at home. Field trip experiences enhance classroom learning. This class is designed to help students transition from Elementary to Middle School level work.

Prerequisites: Students should be reading on grade level and have the ability to communicate their understanding of learning through written and verbal facets.

Grade Target: 6

Loop Schedule: Offered every year

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

Instructor: Karen De Boer

Curriculum: Christian School International Life Science (EPIC places all new orders, used sometimes available online)

7/8th GRADE SCIENCE

Using engaging demonstrations and experiments in the classroom, students are able to use hands-on experiences to enhance their coursework and projects done at home. Alternating years of physical and Earth science in 7/8th grade give Middle Schoolers a well rounded preparation for future high school classes.

Prerequisites: Students should be reading on grade level and have the ability to communicate their understanding of learning through written and verbal facets.

Grade Target: 7-8

Loop Schedule: Alternating years of Physical and Earth Science

1. Physical Science (2020/2021, 2022/2023)
2. Earth Science (2021/2022, 2023/2024)

2020/2021: Offered 3rd and 4th Hour

Instructor: Karen De Boer

Curriculum: Christian School International Physical Science, 2nd edition (EPIC places all new orders, used sometimes available online)

HIGH SCHOOL BIOLOGY

This course provides students with a broad overview of the many disciplines involved in the study of life. It starts with a brief introduction to the definition of life and then discretely examines and explores each of the five biological kingdoms. Students will participate in hands on labs including animal dissections, microscopic life studies, and many chemical process labs. Students will complete a handful of projects throughout the year as well.

Prerequisites: Student should be reading on grade level and able to communicate learning in verbal and written ways.

Grade Target: 9-10

Loop Schedule: Every Year

Credits: 1 Science with Lab

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

Instructor: Jeannette Meyer

Curriculum: Apologia's Exploring Creation through Biology

HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is one of the most fascinating studies of the orderly design of our perfect Creator! The chemistry course is based on regular laboratory investigations of matter, chemical reactions, and the role of energy in those reactions. Students will learn about the structure and properties of matter and its interactions. Laboratory experiments will be used to reinforce topics studied from the text. This course requires an additional ½ hour lab time outside of the 1.5 hour class and is priced at a different rate due to lab time and materials required.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1

Grade Target: 10-12

Loop Schedule: Every year

Credits: 1 Science with Lab

2020/2021: Offered part of 1st and into 2nd Hour (must attend both- this is a 2 hour class)

Curriculum: BJU Chemistry Student Text, 4th edition

HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED BIOLOGY (HUMAN ANATOMY)

This upperclassmen level class provides a college prep study of the human body's 11 major organ systems and their biology and physiology. Lab experiments and dissection direct project based learning and springboard content learning at home. This is an advanced level course with appropriate coinciding course work expectations.

Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry

Grade Target: 11-12

Loop Schedule: Every other year (2020/2021, 2022/2023)

Credits: 1 Science with Lab

2020/2021: Offered 3rd Hour

Curriculum: Apologia Advanced Biology, 2nd Edition

HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICS

A college prep level science class for upperclassmen. Students will learn to appreciate how scientists have observed God's world for the past 3,000 years. Concepts include laws of motion, displacement, magnetism, waves, optics, Newton's Laws, electricity, and science and math integration.

Prerequisites: Algebra 1, Geometry

Grade Target: 11-12

Loop Schedule: Every other year (2021/2022, 2023/2024)

Credits: 1 Science with Lab

2020/2021: Not offered this year, on schedule for 2021-2022

LANGUAGE ARTS COURSES

MIDDLE SCHOOL WRITING

Students will learn to write beautifully by reading the works of wonderful authors, watching movies (it's true!), and learning about literary elements and grammar principles by digging into fantastic books, poems, magazine articles, newspapers, scripture passages and more! Together we will participate in fun exercises and games to play with words, learn basic grammar, and practice getting the amazing thoughts from head to paper. We will also work on several interest-led projects and activities. This is truly a unique writing class, intended to build confident writers! Projects will be based on the WriteShop curriculum and BraveWriter philosophy.

Prerequisites: Students should be reading on grade level and have the ability to communicate their understanding of learning through written and verbal facets.

Grade Target: 6-8

*6th grade students who would benefit from a confidence building year on writing paragraphs or who may not be reading on grade level are encouraged to take the 5/6th grade writing class found in the elementary course descriptions

Loop Schedule: Class can be taken every year with new assignments offered on a rotating basis.

1. WriteShop 1 (A)
 - a. Lessons 1-6
2. WriteShop 1 (B)
 - a. Lessons 7-12

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

Curriculum: WriteShop 1

MIDDLE SCHOOL LITERATURE AND SPEECH

A cohesive, integrated class involving classic literature studies, writing responses, classroom discussion, and speeches based on concepts inspired by the literature of note. Class participation is critical to this class. Elements of literature, author's purpose, illustrated stories, poetry, non-fiction and exposure to other genres are goals for this class. Novel study selections TBD.

Prerequisites: Students should be reading on grade level and have the ability to communicate their understanding of learning through written and verbal facets.

Grade Target: 6-8

Loop Schedule: 2 year loop on literature selections

2020/2021: Offered 4th Hour

HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH AND COMPOSITION WRITING

This academic writing class intends to prepare underclassmen for high school writing. Building off of middle school writing, skills in proper formatting, research, citations, general composition, and persuasive writing will equip students for future high school course work. This class is foundational to a student desiring to take creative writing or literature class as well as test prep.

Prerequisites: Students should be reading on grade level and have the ability to communicate their understanding of learning through written and verbal facets.

Grade Target: 9-10, or upperclassmen who have not had an academic writing class

Loop Schedule: Every Year

Credits: 1 English Language Arts

2020/2021: Offered 1st and 3rd Hour

Instructor: Jeannette Meyer

HIGH SCHOOL LITERATURE

Using IEW's Excellence in Literature courses, this class alternates between American and British literature sources. Literary analysis skills learned and applied to great works through their history. In-depth study of these works springboard learning at home. This advanced high school course requires research and writing skills and an advanced reading comprehension level.

Prerequisites: Recommended- a high school academic writing class

Grade Target: 11-12

Loop Schedule: Every Other Year

1. American Literature (2020/2021, 2022/2023)
2. British Literature (2021/2022, 2023/2024)

Credits: 1 English Language Arts

2020/2021: Offered 4th Hour

Instructor: Jeannette Meyer

Curriculum: IEW Excellence in Literature

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSES

MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM

Course objectives are that each student enjoys physical activity, improves their overall strength and conditioning, learns and practices fitness principles and plays and learns lifelong sports and team sports. Geared towards enriching the middle schoolers with an active learning class.

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 6-8

Loop Schedule: Every Year

2020/2021: Offered 1st Hour

HIGH SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Course objectives are that each student enjoys physical activity, improves their overall strength and conditioning, learns and practices fitness principles and plays and learns lifelong sports and team sports. Each class will have these three components every week: fitness game, “health break”, and a chance to play either a traditional or new sport. Each student will also be asked to keep a simple, fitness journal that helps them keep track of how they are moving throughout the week. This class will be high energy and the goal is to help everyone have fun and find success in the gym or on the field!

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 8-12

Loop Schedule: Every Year, same health content

Credits: .5 Physical Education, .5 Health

2020/2021: Offered 4th Hour

Curriculum: Apologia Health and Nutrition

SOCIAL SCIENCES

GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMICS

Explore the foundations and current events in the United States government from a Biblical worldview. Students will learn about all levels of government from local, state, and federal. Economics will also be a component of this class. Understanding the world of economics and how we can become better stewards of God's resources through the lens of current events will be presented. Projects will help students apply this foundational knowledge to real life scenarios.

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 10-12

Loop Schedule: TBD- this is a new class for EPIC!

Credits: 1 Social Science

2020/2021: Offered 2nd Hour

Curriculum: Exploring Government by Ray Notgrass, Exploring Economics by Ray Notgrass

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES

A general overview of the basic skills and doctrines that are an important part of living life as a Christ follower. Topics will include: the character and attributes of God, how to study the Bible, the persons of the Trinity, worship, prayer and fasting, spiritual gifts and service in the body of Christ, discipleship, evangelism, baptism, and the Lord's Supper. The focus of this class will be hands-on learning to equip students to grow and mature in their faith. Discussion and written responses will also be an integral part of our class, especially as we explore the broad range of denominational similarities and differences on several of these topics.

Prerequisites: None

Grade Target: 6-8

Loop Schedule: TBD- this is a new class for EPIC

2020/2021: Offered 3rd Hour

Instructor: Sarah Ramey

HIGH SCHOOL THEOLOGY AND APOLOGETICS

Alternating years of Christian theology (what do you believe) and apologetics (how to defend your beliefs). In depth study and discussion on basic faith truths make up the majority of this class. How these truths impact culture, how to have tactical conversations with those of other belief systems, and how the other belief systems are infiltrating society make up in-class and at home projects and papers.

Prerequisites:

Grade Target: 10-12

Loop Schedule: Every Other Year

1. Theology (2020/2021, 2022/2023)
2. Apologetics (2021/2022, 2023/2024)

2020/2021: Offered 1st Hour

TECHNOLOGY, LOGIC, AND PROBLEM SOLVING

MIDDLE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY

Students will learn the basics of computer literacy. Navigating common programs such as Internet safety, google based products (docs, slides, sheets), basic graphic and web design are taught in a project based style. This class will equip students to use technology safely and effectively in future school work. Unique needs of this class include an independent email address with full access and regular use of technology in and outside of the classroom.

Prerequisites: Waiver for under 13 accounts, personal laptop or tablet for use in class

Grade Target: 6-9

Loop Schedule: Every Year

2020/2021: Offered 1st Hour

ODYSSEY OF THE MIND

Odyssey of the Mind is an international creative problem-solving program that engages students in their learning by allowing their knowledge and ideas to come to life in an exciting, productive environment. Students use many different STEAM skills (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) and creative problem solving to figure out a solution to their assigned problem. Teams can have a maximum of 7 “brains” so space is limited for this class. Two teams of middle school and one team of high school students are planned. Tuition is paid half in September and the remaining by October 26th. Due to the nature of the small class size and the rules bound by the Odyssey of the Mind organization, the October payment is non-refundable.

Prerequisites: Must be able to attend local and state competitions in February and March (usually one Saturday each). Extra practices leading up to competition. Dates TBA

Expectations: There is a requirement for parent/family involvement in the form of volunteering, material prep, or judging on competition weekends.

Grade Target: 6-8, 9-12

Loop Schedule: New teams and problems each year

2020/2021: 3rd Hour MS Team , 4th Hour MS Team, 4th Hour HS Team

Coaches: Erin Pawloski and Joni Bras