

8th Grade Course Goals

- Bible:** This course is taught from the absolute belief that God is who He says He is according to His Scriptures. The goal of the class is to develop students' love for Jesus Christ, building a Christian Worldview. This will be accomplished by means of the study of the Bible, discussion of contemporary issues, and teaching on the disciplines of Christianity.
- History:** This course is a comprehensive survey of United States history, intended to give the junior high student a solid foundation of knowledge about the heritage of this country. Throughout this course are many examples of people who either followed God's standard or failed to do so. From these examples, the student will see the truth of God in action and develop values and principles for living.
- Language Arts:** Subject matter for eighth grade Language Arts includes writing, grammar, literature, spelling and vocabulary. Students will expand their knowledge and skills of grammar, sentence structure, spelling and vocabulary. Concepts include: identifying parts of speech; clauses; phrases; sentence errors; capitalization; and punctuation. Students will implement these skills through their own writing. Eighth grade Language Arts stresses writing skills by creating the following pieces: descriptive, timeline, news story, character profile, advertisement, photo captions, scripting a debate, book report, fable, and narrative. Experiencing these forms of writing will enable them to demonstrate their growth as children of God. The course will focus on the ability to read novels and other forms of literature to improve comprehension skills; analyzing literature and interpreting literature's meaning; analyzing character development and making inferences about motivation; and comparing and contrasting types of literature. Students will be able to define and identify literary elements (such as setting, point of view, characterization, etc.) and respond to literature on a personal level. Students will understand the value of language and literature and see the importance of communication.
- Mathematics:** In this course, students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills in problem-solving situations. In addition, the course will ease transition from arithmetic to algebra and upper secondary math courses by reviewing the basic computational skills necessary for a strong mathematical foundation. Pre-algebra stresses the relevance of math to students' everyday lives which will help equip them as they understand the value of mathematics for their Christian growth and service.
- Science:** Earth Science is designed as a survey course touching all the major areas of Earth Science. It stresses concepts from earth science that are significant to all Christians. Students will appreciate and understand the fact that the earth we live in is a living breathing planet that is continually growing, moving and changing. What we can do as passers by on this earth is to let nature take its course and get out of its way for its full potential to grow. This course covers the celestial sphere, the atmosphere, the lithosphere and the hydrosphere. In the celestial sphere unit, students will learn about the earth's motion, the sun, the planets, the asteroid and meteors and the moon. The atmosphere unit covers meteorology, water and movement in the atmosphere and weather prediction. The lithosphere and hydrosphere sections open up doors of learning opportunity to geology, rock and fossils, earthquakes and volcanoes, erosion, the oceans and the seas and the ground water system. Earth science is a study of God's creation. The final authority for the Christian is not man's observation but God's revelation.
- Computer:** This course is designed to teach students the proper form for keyboard typing. With practice and repetition, students will become proficient at typing with speed and accuracy.



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- Music: 7th – 10th grade Choir consists of learning basic and more advanced musical concepts and enjoying singing as a group in basic parts. 7th – 12th grade band consists of learning advanced musical concepts and playing advanced music.
- Spanish: 7th and 8th grade Spanish introduces the Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Students will learn how to listen, speak, read, and write in Spanish with a focus on basic vocabulary and grammatical structure. Junior high Spanish will prepare students for a rigorous, in-depth high school Spanish course.
- Physical Education: In Physical Education, students acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development through physical activity, and access to a physically-active lifestyle. The student exhibits a physically-active lifestyle and understands the relationship between physical activity and health throughout the lifespan. In Grade 8, although the acquisition of physical fitness and skill development is important, emphasis is placed more on participation for enjoyment and challenge, both in and out of school. Understanding the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in enjoyable lifetime activities is the basis for eighth grade instruction.

8th Grade Curriculum

Language Arts (BJUP):

Parts of Speech (and Verbals)

Review of all from Grade 7 plus the following new material:
pronoun—relative; verb— progressive tense, passive voice;
conjunction—correlative; verbals—participle, infinitive, gerund,
verbal phrases with
modifiers, functions as different parts of speech

Sentence Structure

Review of all from Grade 7 plus the following new material:
dependent clause—adjective clause

Mechanics

Capitalization; punctuation; spelling

Usage

Review of all from Grade 7

Writing Skills

Review of all from Grade 7 plus the following new material:
essay—thesis statement, outlining;
introductory and concluding paragraphs

Literature

Six themes: friends; choices; heroes; discoveries; adventurers;
viewpoints

Genres represented: short fiction; novel; drama; poetry; hymns;
folktale; personal essay; humorous
essay; diary; novels

Cultures represented: American; English; French; Japanese;

Norwegian; Cuban; Chinese; Irish;

Czechoslovakian; New Zealander; Greek; Burmese; S. African;

German; Dutch; Yiddish; Polish

United States History (BJUP):

Geography

Geographic development of the United States through land
acquisition; profiles of major geographic regions

History

Introduction to the history of the nation

Government

Republican form of government under the Constitution

Economics

Development and effects of inventions and industries

Religion

Influence of Christianity on American history

Culture

Interaction of people, ideas, and culture in America

Space and Earth Science (BJUP):

A Framework for Earth Science

philosophy of science, contrasting biblical and naturalistic
frameworks for science; limitations
of science; the authority of the Bible and worldview
development; a young-earth creationist worldview; overview of
earth sciences; how worldview defines
scientific theories; evidences for various motions of the earth

The Celestial Sphere

stars, constellations, galaxies, black holes, and quasars;
telescopes and other astronomical instruments; features of the
sun, the sun's structure, and solar energy; planetary properties,
comparing
the planets, descriptions of the planets; origin theories
of the solar system; asteroids, comets, meteors, their origins,
ultimate fates; description of the earth's moon, its motions, solar
and lunar eclipses, and theories for the moon's origin; history of
space exploration, space programs, space stations, reasons for
manned space missions, future of space exploration

The Atmosphere

structure, energy in the atmosphere, measurable
conditions in the atmosphere; water entering the
atmosphere, humidity and clouds, precipitation, dew,
frost; air mass formation, movement and weather; global
and local winds; origin of winds; thunderstorms,
tornadoes, and hurricanes; simple and complex weather
instruments, weather data reporting systems, weather
data analysis and prediction

The Lithosphere

the earth's interior structure, and the earth's history from
creationist and evolutionary perspectives; minerals
and ores, basic chemical descriptions, and identifying
minerals; descriptions and occurrences of native
minerals; sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic rocks;
fossils and sedimentary rocks; creationist and
uniformitarian rock cycles; the uniformitarian geologic
column; fossil fuels; describing mountains, types of
mountains and their formation; earthquakes, where and
how they occur, how they are measured and located;
kinds of volcanoes, their emissions, their structures, and
their locations; hydrothermal fluids, types of hydrothermal
minerals, harnessing geothermal energy; weathering,
soils, mass wasting, and stream
erosion

The Hydrosphere

Composition of seawater; tides, waves, and currents;
beach erosion; seafloor topography; ocean exploration;
formation and movement of glaciers, types of glaciers,
glacial erosion and deposition; the ice age; the ground
water system; the water cycle, the storage and movement
of ground water; erosion by ground water; caves and
Karst topography

Pre-algebra (Holt):

Introduction to Algebra

Equations and Inequalities

Graphing

Integers and Exponents

Operations with integers

Equations and inequalities with integers

Properties of exponents

Scientific notation

Rational and Real Numbers

Operations with rational numbers

Equations and inequalities with rational numbers

Squares and square roots

Real number system

Data Analysis

Organizing data

Measures of central tendency

Displaying data

Scatter-plots

Geometry

Plane Figures

Coordinate geometry

Transformations

Perimeter and Area of Rectangles, Parallelograms,

Triangles, and Trapezoids

Pythagorean Theorem

Volume of Prisms, Pyramids, Cylinders, Cones, Spheres



Ratio, Proportion and Percent

Ratios and Unit Rates
Solving Proportions
Similar Figures
Dilations
Relating decimals, fractions, and percents
Finding percents
Percent of change
Applications with percents

Probability

Experimental and theoretical probability
Fundamental Principle of Counting
Permutations and combinations
Independent and dependent events

Equations

Solving multi-step equations and inequalities
Systems of Equations

Functions

Graphing linear equations
Slope and intercepts
Direct variation
Arithmetic and geometric sequences
Linear, Exponential, and Quadratic functions

Polynomials

Identifying and simplifying polynomials
Operations with polynomials

Spanish 1B (McDougal Littell):

Contractions
Irregular verbs
Present participles
Possessive forms of er and ir verbs
Possessive pronouns
Possessive adjectives
Question words
Use of diphthongs
Definite articles
Conjugation of irregular verbs
Comparative adjectives
Superlatives
Reflexive pronouns
Preterit forms

Bible:

Biblical Backgrounds - A Basic Course in
Understanding the Bible
Survey of the Old Testament
In-depth study of the Book of Joshua

BJUP – Bob Jones University Press