

8th Grade Course Goals

- Bible:** This course covers Old Testament history from Creation through the formation of Israel and the era of the Kings to the captivity and return. This overview will familiarize students with the broad outlines of the Old Testament while teaching them principles of personal character development.
- 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, 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 utilizing the Six Traits of Writing: Idea Development, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, and Conventions. Experiencing these traits of writing will enable them to demonstrate their growth as children of God. Students will also write a research paper. The course will focus on reading 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.
- Algebra I:** In Algebra I, as students learn mathematical concepts such as number systems, operations, geometry, and functions, they will begin to understand and appreciate the perfection of God and his creation, especially His created order in mathematics. In this course, students will develop critical thinking and reasoning skills in problem-solving situations as well as develop speed and accuracy in computation. This course will help equip students as they understand the value of mathematics for their Christian growth and service.
- Science:** This course is designed to be a survey touching on all the major areas of Space and 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 asteroids 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. Students will use a variety of applications throughout the year such as Movie Maker, Google Classroom and Docs, Computer Programming, Google Drawings and Google Earth. Students will complete a



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PSAT prep course. Computer class assignments are often a direct extension of core curriculum content. Students complete projects and presentations based on their English and Science core content.

Band: 7th – 10th grade Students will learn musical concepts and theory needed for their instrument. Students will participate in 2 concerts. Students will complete theory related worksheets for a grade. There will be practice records and performance tests as a grade.

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, as well as research cultural differences of Spanish-speaking countries around the world.

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

Write a research paper

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):

A Survey of American History from Colonization through Reconstruction

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

Earth Science (BJUP):

Introduction to Earth Science

Earth science and exercising biblical dominion, worldviews and
science, the structure of science, scientific models, what earth
science is; maps and cartography, geographic information
systems (GIS); introduction to physical science, matter, forces,
energy and

The Restless Earth

Earth - a special place designed for life, a brief history of
geology, operational and historical geology, the earth's interior
structure, natural resources; old- and young-earth origin theories
of the earth, evidences for catastrophic changes in earth's
history, models for geologic tectonics; tectonic forces, faults and
earthquakes, earthquakes and seismology, effects of
earthquakes; mountains and hill, tectonic mountains and
landforms; volcanic emissions, volcano activity and
classification, intrusive volcanism

Earth's Rocky Materials

Describing, identifying and classifying minerals, mineral
resources; classifying rocks, igneous rocks, sedimentary rocks,
metamorphic rocks, critiquing the uniformitarian rock cycle; the
process of fossilization, paleontology, fossil fuels; weathering,

The Water World

Ocean basins and landforms, seawater composition,
ocean environments; tides, currents, waves; history of
oceanography, methods and instruments, deep sea
exploration, underwater habitats research vehicles;
stream characteristics, lakes and ponds, limnology;
groundwater reservoirs, groundwater chemistry, water as
a resource, solution caves and karst topography

The Atmosphere

Composition and thermal structure of the atmosphere,
special regions; energy in the atmosphere; measurable
weather data, causes of wind, global wind patterns,
sources of local winds, cloud formation, classifying
clouds, precipitation, dew and frost; air masses and
weather fronts, causes of precipitation, winter storms,
thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, weather
forecasting, weather maps, applications of GIS in weather
modeling; describing climate and climate zones, climate
data and interpretation observed short-term climate
changes from volcanism and oceanic cycles, climate
models, worldviews and long-term climate change,
environmentalism and biblical stewardship of the
environment

The Heavens

The sun-Earth-moon system – the sun's structure,
composition and energy, the solar spectrum; the moon's
structure and surface, origin theories; Earth's orbit,
seasons, timekeeping, lunar phases, eclipses, tidal
effects; models of the solar system, Kepler's laws,
classification and brief description of the planets, dwarf
planets, small solar system bodies, evidences for a young
solar system, constellations and star properties, stellar
classification and the H-R diagram, stellar aging,
classification of galaxies, non-stellar objects, cosmology
and worldviews; challenges of space exploration,
rocketry, principles of satellite and space probes,
challenges and need for manned space exploration

Spanish 1B (McDougal Littell):

Affirmative and Negative words

Contractions

Irregular verbs

Present participles

Possessive forms of -er and -ir verbs

Possessive pronouns

Possessive adjectives

Question words

Indefinite/Definite articles

Conjugation of regular, irregular, and Stem-changing
verbs

Comparative adjectives

Reflexive pronouns (me, te, se, nos)

Writing verbs in the present tense

Bible (BJUP):

Before the Flood

The Patriarchs

Moses and His Times

Into the Promised Land

The Kingdom United

The Kingdom Divided

The Last Years of the Kingdom

The Captivity and Beyond

In-depth Study of the Book of Joshua (1-6)

Memory Verses



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erosion and deposition, soils and soil formation

Algebra I (BJUP):

Real Number Operations

Sets of Numbers

Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing

Rational Numbers

Exponents and Order of Operations

Variables and Equations

Variables and Algebraic Expressions

Evaluating Algebraic Expressions

Using the Distributive Property

Solving One and Two-Step Equations

Simplifying Equations and Solving Multi-Step Equations

Using Equations

Solving Literal Equations

Ratios and Proportions

Similar Figures and Scale Models

The Percent Equation

Percent Change and Error, Money, Motion, Mixtures

Inequalities, Solving Inequalities, Properties of Inequality

Solving Inequalities

Conjunctions and Disjunctions

Absolute Value Equations and Inequalities

Relations and Functions

Points in the Coordinate Plane

Relations and Functions

Graphs of Relations and Functions

Function Rules

Direct and Inverse Variations

Graphing Absolute Value Functions

Linear Functions

Slope and Slope-Intercept Form of a Line

Writing Linear Equations

Parallel and Perpendicular Lines

Trend Lines and Correlation

Graphing Linear Inequalities and Lines

Linear Systems

Graphing Systems of Equations

Solving Simple and Advanced Systems by Substitution and

Elimination

Motion and Mixture Problems

Solving Systems of Inequalities

Exponents

Products and Powers

Quotients

Scientific Notation

Translating Power Functions

Exponential Functions

Polynomials

Classifying and Evaluating Polynomials

Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing Polynomials

Multiplying Binomials Using FOIL

Factoring Polynomials

Factoring Common Monomials and Trinomials

Radicals

Expressing Roots

Simplifying, Multiplying, Dividing, Adding, Subtracting Radicals

Pythagorean Theorem

Radical Expressions, Equations, Functions

Quadratic Functions

Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring, Taking Roots

Completing the Square and with Leading Coefficients

Quadratic Formula and Functions

Zeros of a Function

Rational Expressions

Simplifying, Multiplying, Dividing Rational Expressions

Adding, Subtracting Expressions with Common and Different

Denominators



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Complex and Mixed Expressions
Solving and Applying Rational Equations