

*2020-21 Upper School*

# Course Catalog



**New Life Academy**

Learn. Lead. Serve.

# New Life Academy Upper School Course Catalog 2020-21

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## **Vision**

To develop tomorrow's Christ-centered leaders today.

## **Mission**

Our mission at New Life Academy is to educate and energize each student to impact their world for Jesus Christ and to reach their full potential in scholarship, leadership and service out of love for God and one another.

## **Motto**

Learn with Honor. Lead with Courage. Serve with Compassion.

## **Core Values**

- Pursue excellence in educating and preparing students for life
- Teach and model an authentic Christian life and worldview
- Treat others as individually valued and uniquely created
- Create vibrant relationships with students and families
- Provide a transformative educational experience for an exceptional value

## **Portrait of a Graduate**

If you know a tree by its fruit, our most powerful example is our graduates. We exist to unleash a generation of believers shaped by Jesus' teachings to pursue excellence in all things for His glory, moving toward a hurting world with His grace and mercy. A New Life Academy graduate will be

- Authentic Christ Followers
- Spirit-Driven Individuals
- Accomplished Learners And Mindful Doers
- Agents For Positive Change
- Wise Leaders And Discerning Followers

## **Statement of Faith**

Christian education is a partnership. Unity in that partnership is an essential part of being consistent and effective in our mission to educate and energize each student to impact their world for Jesus Christ. Below is our statement of faith; written to help you understand what we believe and therefore teach.

### **The Word of God**

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and having supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

### **The Trinity**

We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three Persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct, but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

### **God the Father**

We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayers and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

### **Jesus Christ**

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection and ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

### **The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide.

### **Regeneration**

We believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation and that there are no good deeds that a person can do to free himself from condemnation. We believe that those who receive Jesus Christ as Lord and trust in Him by faith as the only way to salvation are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

### **The Last Things**

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth and the establishment of His Kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal peace and joy of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.

### **The Church**

We believe in the universal church: a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church: consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

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### **Community Service Hours**

At New Life Academy, we strive to develop students that have a growing and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We are called as believers to be the hands and feet of Christ. Service hours gives New Life Academy students a distinct advantage to learn the heart of service. Community service provides students the opportunity to find a passion for giving back in the areas they live in and the world around them. All Christian service hours will be based on the principle in Mark 10:45, which states, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Simply stated, the type of service that you will be required to do will involve giving of your time and talents.

Students in grades 9th-12th can earn service hours in a variety of ways and can also earn them during the summer, weekends and other opportunities. (Mission trips, church volunteering, community service and more). Students will have access to a link in Schoology where they can log their hours. The link can be found in the Resources section of the Upper School News. Upper School Community Service Hour Requirements are 15 hours per year for 9th & 10th grades and 20 hours per year for 11th & 12th grades.

### **Citizenship Codes**

At New Life Academy we put a strong emphasis on academics and character. The Citizenship Codes are a tool to communicate, not only academics on the report cards, but how a student is doing as a member of our school community.

A New Life Academy student receiving an N will result in conference with the principal. The conference may include parents, but a communication to the family will come from the Principal.

A New Life Academy student receiving a U or more than one N will be ineligible for extra-curricular and athletic participation for a minimum of two weeks. In addition, they will be required to have a conference with the principal and at least one parent in attendance.

Ineligibility includes all extra-curricular activities. Citizenship codes will also be used to evaluate a student's participation in other school leadership, field trips or travel opportunities. (Sports, Drama, Clubs, Athletic Captainship and leadership positions at the school, National Honor Society, Student Council etc.)

#### **E – Excellent**

- Consistently displays a Christ-like attitude
- Goes above and beyond to encourage and help classmates
- Shows excellent participation skills, by both sharing and listening to others' remarks
- Demonstrates strong leadership skills

#### **G – Good**

- Respectful to the teacher and classmates
- Consistently displays a positive attitude
- Comes to class on time, properly attired, and prepared
- Remains respectful and attentive during instruction
- Willingly participates in learning activities

#### **S – Satisfactory**

- Generally shows respect to their teacher and classmates with few exceptions
- Shows a positive attitude most of the time
- Is prepared for class but is occasionally late, or out of dress code
- Participates in classroom activities and learning with some reminders

#### **N - Needs Improvement**

- Attitude and behavior negatively impacts class or disrupts learning
- Is disrespectful to teacher
- Discourages or makes unkind remarks to classmates
- Is occasionally late, unprepared for class, or out of dress code
- Requires repeated correction

#### **U – Unsatisfactory**

- Unwilling to cooperate or benefit from correction
- Repeatedly demonstrates a negative attitude and pattern of behavior
- Is a continual distraction to the learning process
- Is consistently late, unprepared for class, or out of dress code

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## Academics

### Grading Scale

Assignments, quizzes, tests, reports and projects are evaluated according to the following grading scale:

100 - 94	4.00	A	76 - 73	2.00	C
93 - 90	3.66	A-	72 - 70	1.66	C-
89 - 87	3.33	B+	69 - 67	1.33	D+
86 - 83	3.00	B	66 - 63	1.00	D
82 - 80	2.66	B-	62 - 60	0.66	D-
79 - 77	2.33	C+	59 - 0	0.00	F

### Weighted GPA vs. Unweighted GPA

At New Life Academy, students have the opportunity to earn weighted grade points by taking honors, College in School (CIS) and Advanced Placement (AP) level courses. Honors courses are accelerated, more challenging versions of regular classes, and CIS/Advanced Placement (AP) courses are considered college level coursework. Both require students to learn at a faster pace, with greater depth, and allow students the opportunity to earn an extra grade point. Therefore, students earning A's in honors, CIS, and AP classes may begin to see their GPA increase above the 4.0 mark because they earned an extra grade point and were also successful in their other coursework.

### Failed Courses/Credit Recovery

If a student fails a semester or full-year course, that "F" remains on the transcript and the "F" figures into the student's grade point average (GPA). If the student makes up the credit lost by passing a summer school course, retaking the course, or taking an online credit recovery course, the new grade will replace the "F" on the student's transcript. This policy only applies to courses that have been failed.

### PSEO

New Life Academy offers a hybrid PSEO plan where students can take PSEO credits while remaining on campus. PSEO courses are either taught onsite by a PSEO certified teacher or online through our partnership with University of Northwestern, St Paul. PSEO earns dual credit and will count towards your GPA. Be sure to work with our Academic, College and Career Department to understand if PSEO is the right option for you. If New Life Academy offers a class similar to a PSEO class, students are required to first take the New Life Academy class. If there is a schedule conflict with the NLA offered class, please contact the Registrar.

### NHS Homework Help

New Life Academy provides homework help through our National Honor Society members. If you would like support, watch for opportunities on Schoology or contact the Academic, College and Career Department.

### National Honor Society (NHS) Membership

National Honor Society recognizes Sophomore, Junior and Senior students who demonstrate outstanding ability in four areas: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. NHS members are required to serve the New Life community by assisting other students in their academic and social development by providing homework help for at least one student per semester during flex time, before or after school. The academic qualifications for NHS membership are:

- Students must take at least two advanced level courses (denoted \*) each semester
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above
- Be in good standing in accordance with the Citizenship Code policy

Advanced level classes that qualify for NHS:

Honors English	CIS Bible	AP English Lit	AP Biology	Calculus
Honors Algebra II	CIS Spanish	AP Art History	AP Chemistry	Stats
Honors Anatomy & Physiology	PSEO Psychology	AP US History	AP Physics	Pre-Calculus
		AP European History	AP Calc	Applied Elec & Mag
			AP Stats	Applied Phys & Eng

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## Academic, College and Career Planning

Our goal is to maximize the success of each student by removing learning obstacles and navigating social and emotional challenges so they can thrive at NLA. We spend time getting to know each student so they have the tools they need to succeed. We provide a supportive environment to help students identify paths in academics and activities to steer them towards their college and career goals.

### College Planning

Planning for college can be an overwhelming task for students and their parents. We recognize that each student is unique and we strive to help them identify their strengths, values and interests. Knowing the competitive nature of admissions at many colleges, we coach our students on how to best prepare and present their achievements.

### College Planning Tool: Naviance Family Connection

Family Connection from Naviance Succeed is a comprehensive website designed for our students and parents that assists in making decisions about courses, colleges, and careers. Family Connection will allow parents and students to:

- Get involved in the planning and advising process – Build a resume, complete online surveys related to college & career planning, and manage application materials during the college admissions process.
- Research colleges – Compare GPA, standardized test scores, and other statistics to actual historical data from our school for students who have applied and been admitted in the past.

Parents and students can log in at: <https://student.naviance.com>. If you need help with your login, please contact the Academic, College and Career office.

### Suggested 4-Year Path

9th Grade	10th Grade
English 9 (Regular or Honors) Intro to Bible Math (Algebra I, Geometry or Algebra II) Intro to Physics & Chemistry (Regular or Honors) World History & Geography Spanish I Electives	English 10 (Regular or Honors) The Mission of God Math (Geometry, Algebra II, or Pre-Calc) Biology (Regular or AP) US History (Regular or AP) Spanish II Electives
11th Grade	12th Grade
2 Bible Electives College Writing One English Elective Economics Civics Math Electives	Senior Capstone 1 Bible Elective 2 English Electives Science Elective Electives Math (recommended)

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## NLA Graduation Requirements and College Admission Requirements

Some elective courses may not be offered every semester or are subject to change based on demand.

Subject Areas	NLA Requirements	4-year College Minimum	State Universities/ Most Private	Highly Selective Universities
Social Studies**	3 credits (World History, US History, Civics & Econ required)	2 credits	3 credits recommended	4 credits (Recommended at Honors or AP level)
English	4 credits (College Writing required)	4 credits	4 credits (Honors or AP recommended if eligible)	4 credits (Recommended at Honors or AP level)
Math	3 credits (through Algebra II)	3 credits (through Algebra II)	3 credits (4 credits strongly recommended)	4 credits (Recommended at Honors or AP level)
Science*	3.5 credits (Physical Science, Biological, Chemistry/Physics required)	3 credits	3 credits (4 credits strongly recommended)	4 credits (Recommended at Honors or AP level)
Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit	1 credit minimum
Technology	0.5 credit	0 credit	0 credit	0 credit
World Language	2 credits (same language)	2 credits (same language)	2 credits (same language, 3-4 strongly recommended)	4 credits (same language, 4th credit at the AP level)
PE/Health	1.5 credits	0 credits	0 credits	0 credits
Bible**	4 credits	0 credits	0 credits	0 credits
Electives	2.5 credits (1.5 must be academic)	1 credit	1 credit minimum	Varies
NEW IP***	2.0 credits	0 credits	0 credits	0 credits

\*Starting with Class of 2022. Students prior need 3.5 Social Studies credits and 3 Science credits

\*\*Students transferring into NLA are required to have 1 Bible credit for each year attended.

\*\*\*Students transferring into NLA are required to have .5 IP credit for each year attended.

Note: College admission requirements vary according to each individual college or university's policies. Be sure to consult the specific admission requirements for the colleges and/or universities that your student desires to attend. These recommendations are meant to serve as guidelines. Guidelines will also depend on the College Major (ex. science and engineering majors will look for 4 credits in both science and math).

## Graduation Requirements

To receive a New Life Academy diploma, students must successfully complete 27 credits. Students must carry a minimum of six credited courses per semester. Semester classes are 0.5 credit and full year classes are 1.0 credit. Study hall receives no credit. Students transferring to NLA after 9th grade will have required credits reduced based on number of semesters involved in IP.

Diplomas are issued when the following criteria are met:

- Academic Criteria
- Community Service hours met
- No outstanding student account balance
- No pending disciplinary action

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## **Daily Schedule**

New Life Academy utilizes a modified block schedule in Upper School. We've modified the class schedule so that two days a week we have longer blocks of classes to allow for deeper investigation of topics and more time on experiments and projects. On the other three days, we provide students a FLEX time mid-morning.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
1st Hour 8:00 - 8:48	1st Hour 8:00 - 8:48	1st Hour 8:00 - 9:30	5th Hour 8:15 - 9:45	1st Hour 8:00 - 8:48
2nd Hour 8:52 - 9:40	2nd Hour 8:52 - 9:40			2nd Hour 8:52 - 9:40
FLEX 9:40 - 10:10	FLEX 9:40 - 10:10	2nd Hour 9:40 - 11:10	Chapel/ Community Groups 9:55 - 11:10	FLEX 9:40 - 10:10
3rd Hour 10:18 - 11:06	3rd Hour 10:18 - 11:06			3rd Hour 10:18 - 11:06
4th Hour 11:10 - 11:58	4th Hour 11:10 - 11:58	3rd Hour 11:20 - 12:50	6th Hour 11:20 - 12:50	4th Hour 11:10 - 11:58
5th Hour 12:02 - 12:52	5th Hour 12:02 - 12:52			5th Hour 12:02 - 12:52
Lunch 11:52 - 1:16	Lunch 11:52 - 1:16	Lunch 12:50 - 1:20	Lunch 12:50 - 1:20	Lunch 11:52 - 1:16
6th Hour 1:20 - 2:08	6th Hour 1:20 - 2:08	4th Hour 1:30 - 3:00	7th Hour 1:30 - 3:00	6th Hour 1:20 - 2:08
7th Hour 2:12 - 3:00	7th Hour 2:12 - 3:00			7th Hour 2:12 - 3:00

## **FLEX**

Flex Time is a 30-minute period offered three times a week that allows students to get extra academic help, participate in clubs / activities and/or connect with staff and other students. The goals of FLEX time are :

- To promote academic equity by giving all students a chance to have individualized access to teachers and resources during school hours.
- To give students the opportunity to experience different opportunities in unique areas of interest.
- To give the school leadership and teachers the time to meet with grade levels, promote community and training.
- To develop students spiritually, mentoring and discipleships opportunities, leadership development
- To provide opportunities for class unity

## **Community Groups**

New Life Academy's community group program is a central component to the mission of New Life Academy. Community Groups are designed to equip and develop our students to be Authentic Christ Followers, Spirit Driven Individuals, Agents for Positive Change, Wise Leaders and Discerning Followers, and Accomplished Learners and Mindful Doers.

By setting aside time for students to develop vibrant relationships and to learn how to treat others as individually valued and uniquely created, Community Groups is just one more way that NLA equips tomorrow's Christ-centered leaders.

Community groups are assigned within their grade. Groups are made up of 10-15 students of a single gender. Teachers and faculty will serve as Community group advisors. Community groups have the following goals:

- Culture building through relationships and leadership development
- Goal setting
- Academic Guidance and Advocacy

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## Bible Courses

4 Bible credits (one for each year of NLA Upper School attendance) is required for graduation.

The story of the Bible is the most exciting story ever told. It is the story of a God, His people and the promise of a king who would bring peace and life to all people. The message of the Bible is that Jesus is this promised king, who died in our place, making peace and securing the future of all who believe. Through studying the Bible, students are able to see the world through the lens of Christ. Students seek God's good intention for the world, an understanding of how things went wrong, how Christ set things right, and a picture of what is to come

### **Bible 9 – Introduction to the Bible**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9

Course Description: Students will study the entire Bible following the person and character of Christ from Genesis to Revelation. This course is a study of God's plan for redemption. The objective of the course is to learn God's character, plans and purposes through study of characters, major events and flow of the text to a personal relationship with Christ.

### **Bible 10 - The Mission of God**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10, Prerequisite: Intro to the Bible

Course Description: In The Mission of God, the focus is on learning about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout the year, students are asked three questions: What is the Gospel? What does the Gospel change in us? How do we take the Gospel into the world? The course focuses on inductive study through the books of Acts and Ephesians for the first semester. The second semester follows an outline of the book *The Gospel in Life* by Timothy Keller as the students interact with the Gospel in various aspects of life. Throughout the school year, an emphasis is placed on cultural and world engagement for and with the Gospel of Christ. The students learn that it is through the Gospel that lives are changed and God's plan for the world is brought into focus.

### **Christian Thought**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: The Mission of God

Course Description: Christian Thought is an introduction to Christian theology, church history, and the Christian worldview. This course is designed around reading and responding to "classic" Christian writings on a variety of important theological and devotional topics. The goal of this course is to develop a way of thinking and understanding that makes it possible to engage truth and culture with the message of Christ. Course materials: *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis, *Not A Fan* by Kyle Idelman.

### **CIS Bible\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: The Mission of God with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Course Description: CIS Bible, a collaboration with Bethel University and offered as Bethel University's Bible 101, is taught on the New Life campus. This one-semester course covers Genesis through Revelation. CIS Bible examines the books of the Bible in their chronological flow through history. The course is an overview of the entirety of scripture with an emphasis placed on interpretation, purposes, messages and themes. The goal is to provide an overall understanding of the messages of scripture and the tools to interpret and apply God's word to the individual's life. *Please Note: There is an additional college credit fee of approximately \$195 required for this course. In addition to high school credit, students will receive three Bethel University college level credits.*

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### **Introduction to Ministry**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12 , Prerequisite: The Mission of God

Course Description: This course will introduce students to various types of ministry and assist them in identifying their gifts. In addition, it will help equip students to be the leaders of the church that this world desperately needs. The goal is for students to start to look for and find ways to use what they have learned and the ways they have been gifted. The course is very practical and dynamic in nature. It is the perfect fit for the student that is looking for ways to get involved and use their talents for Christ.

### **Principles of Biblical Interpretation**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12

Course Description: This course is a study of the interpretative principles involved in discerning the meaning of the biblical text. Students will engage with the various genres of scripture so that they may interpret passages within their historical context and apply them for today. The course requires a hands-on approach that involves the student in the research and interpretation of various passages of the Bible. Course units include Introduction to Interpretation, Interpretation Need, Tools for Interpretation, The Epistles, Old Testament Narrative, The Book of Acts, The Gospels, The Parables, The Law, The Prophets, The Psalms, Wisdom Literature, Revelation, The Centrality of Christ, The Culmination of Scripture, and a Final Project.

Course Materials: *How to Read the Bible for All it's Worth* by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart and a Bible (preferably ESV Bible)

### **Worldviews**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: The Mission of God

Course Description: Worldviews seeks to help students apply their faith and biblical knowledge, on a practical level, to their lives now and after they leave New Life Academy. This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of how their faith affects their lives and acts itself out on a daily level. An emphasis is placed on comparing the truth of the gospel with competing worldviews and religions. Students learn how to articulate and defend their faith in this world.

### **Senior Bible Capstone**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Required Grade 12

Course Description: The purpose of Senior Capstone is to firmly establish students in the gospel and give them the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and application of God's word. Senior Capstone is the culmination of the students' Biblical and Theological training at New Life Academy. The course is a way to pull all of the students' learning and training together and for them to demonstrate not only a mastery of the subject area, but also how the Bible and the gospel integrate and affect their lives.

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## **Business**

### **Business Consulting**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grades: 11, 12

Course Description: This course will place students in real world business environments where they will not only study innovation, entrepreneurship and business, but also hone their soft skills and workplace professionalism. This course will also incorporate a "Faith at Work" curriculum. Focus will be on teams of students working on real consulting projects for local companies where they will face a specific challenge from the organization. Using a specific framework developed by Chris Pears and Ann Senn, retired Senior Partner of Deloitte Consulting, students will research, ideate, evaluate, recommend and formally present solutions on deliverables required by the client.

### **Economics**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

Course Description: This course introduces students to the basic principles of micro and macroeconomics including the following: what is economics, economic systems, American free enterprise, demand, supply, prices, market structures, business organizations, labor, money and banking, financial markets, GDP and growth, economic challenges, taxes and government spending, fiscal policy, the Federal Reserve and monetary policy, international trade, development and globalization. Also there will be case studies of different career fields.

### **Entrepreneurship**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grades: 11, 12

Course Description: This course will place students in real world business environments where they will not only study innovation, entrepreneurship and business, but also hone their soft skills and workplace professionalism. This course will also incorporate a "Faith at Work" curriculum. Focus will be on learning about human centered design, innovation and entrepreneurship and culminates in a competition similar to the famous TV show "Shark Tank." Working in teams, students will learn from professionals about the innovation process, human-centered design and new venture business development while creating their own business concept. This will culminate in each team presenting their business proposals to a panel of business entrepreneurship judges.

### **Intro to Accounting**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12 Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description: In Introduction to Accounting, students will learn the basic account principles, concepts, and terminology used in the accounting field. Some of the topics to be discussed and created using accounting software will be assets, liabilities, income statements, balance sheets, cash flows, revenues, and other accounting terminology. Accounting is used in multiple career fields to read bank and financial statements, preparing a budget for projects, project budget planning, entrepreneurship endeavors, and managing accounts. This course will give an overview of the role accounting plays in managing money in the business world.

### **Personal Finance**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Descriptions: This course will include coverage of mathematics applied to real life personal finance. Included will be solid, practical, up-to-date coverage of key personal finance issues that impact our lives daily. The list of topics include banking services, payroll deductions, taxes, insurances, stocks, bonds, mortgages, credit, charitable giving and retirement planning. We will also study money from a biblical perspective, emphasizing God's teaching on proper stewardship of the financial resources He entrusts to us in our lives.

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## English Courses

4.0 credits of English are required for graduation. All students are required to take College Writing.

The New Life Academy of Woodbury English Department believes that a primary goal of education is to equip young adults to interact with the world from a Christ-centered perspective. In order to achieve these goals effectively, we want our students to be able to write well, think critically about complex issues, and speak confidently in small and large group settings.

In order to achieve these goals, the English department will focus on developing a love for reading, critical thinking and research skills, as well as crucial listening and speaking tools. By reading various forms of texts, students will not only be able to enjoy the characters they meet, but they will be able to see how themes apply to our world today. They will be able to successfully articulate the complexity of the issues raised in their texts in verbal and written form. From a Biblical perspective, they will be able to engage their peers and teachers in valuable and difficult discussions.

The goal of the English Department is to have all students display the following attributes of an effective Christian citizen:

- Support and defend viewpoints
- Enjoy reading of all types
- Produce clear and effective writing in various forms
- Develop polished public speaking skills
- Understand and respect differing viewpoints

### **American Novel**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: In this course, students will investigate the rich history of the American novel. Students will learn how historical, political, and social events created the framework for the American novel. The main novels this course will focus on are *The Great Gatsby*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *Into the Wild*, and *Raisin in the Sun*. Other short texts may be supplemented to help students' understanding of the time period and authors.

### **British Literature**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: British Literature is a survey course that examines the classics of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present. Students will read many genres of literature from all eras of English history (including old, middle, and modern English). Evaluation will be a mixture of tests, quizzes, compositions, class discussions, and participation.

### **College Writing**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: College Writing is designed to help students improve the writing skills essential in their continued success throughout high school and college. Students will review and learn to apply many skills in this course: correctly using grammar and punctuation conventions in written works, conducting analytical research, and strengthening editing skills. Students will work on a college application essays, personal reflections, expository writing, argumentation and research skills. This class will follow a workshop-type model, meaning students will have constant support from both peers and their teacher in writing conventions, organization, and presentation of written ideas.

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### **Creative Writing**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: Within this writing intensive structure, students will explore various forms of poetry, fiction, and narrative writing including, but not limited to, the following: short story writing, poetry, play writing, and vignettes. Students will focus on writing elements, style, language, point of view, and characterization techniques in their writing assignments. This is a course for students who not only want to improve their writing skills, but also enjoy writing and thinking creatively.

### **English 9**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Course Description: Students will develop critical and analytical thinking skills as they study composition, grammar, as well as various authors and genres of literature. When finished with this course, students will have explored and developed their organization and fluency of writing, basic research skills, public speaking skills, grammar knowledge, and recognition and understanding of multiple genres of literature.

### **English 9 - Honors\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Counselor Approval

Course Description: Honors English 9 follows a similar curriculum to English 9; however, Honors English will have higher expectations in terms of workload and depth of content. Students will have larger reading assignments, longer writing assignments, and will give formal presentations. The main essays students will write focus on personal reflection, analysis, research, and the implementation of formal structures.

### **English 10**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Course Description: This course is designed to prepare sophomore students to read literature on a deeper level and to study and communicate through writing and speaking. Students will read a variety of novels and plays, as well as many poems and short stories. Students will strengthen their fluency in reading, as well as develop their knowledge of various literary genres (short stories, poetry, plays, novels, etc.). Furthermore, students will strengthen their critical thinking skills through literary analysis and in the writing of investigative papers.

### **English 10 - Honors\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Prerequisite: English 9 with a grade of A or Honors English 9 with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Course Description: The Honors English 10 course follows a similar curriculum as the English 10 course; however, Honors English students will be working at a higher level of expectation. Most units are faster paced, and a greater understanding of grammar and composition is expected. Research papers, analysis essays, novels, short stories, and other works of literature will be studied to prepare students for future literature and composition courses. Students will read a variety of novels and plays with emphasis placed on interpretation, character study, vocabulary, and plot structure.

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### **English Literature - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Course Description: This course is a college-level introductory course in reading and critical analysis of literature. The class is designed to expose students to many different types of literature. Writing will be heavily emphasized. Students will read assigned poetry and literature and approved novels of their own choosing. AP practice tests/compositions will help prepare students for the AP Literature exam in the spring to earn possible college credit.

### **Journalism**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: Journalism is designed to teach students how to write concisely, to gather important information, to effectively ask questions, and to research important events effectively. Students will learn the inverted pyramid style of writing, AP formatting, and other styles of article flow. Students will understand and master most journalistic styles of articles, including features, profiles, editorials, and opinion articles. In addition to these writing skills, students will identify ethical issues journalists face and consistently observe and discuss current events.

### **Oral Communication**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10, 1 year of ELL for International Students

Course Description: Oral Communication is designed to teach entry-level speech communication skills and the ethical and moral responsibility of public speaking and leadership. Students will be reviewing many areas of speech communication including confidence building, nonverbal communication, and effective language. They will also practice researching, outlining, and delivering informative, persuasive, impromptu, and how to speeches. In addition, students will take part in a group communication and develop practical skills in interviewing.

### **Shakespearean Literature**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: In this course, students will read several of Shakespeare's sonnets and plays. Students will engage in discussion and interpretation, which will enable them to develop an appreciation for Shakespeare's style and skill, and give them a greater understanding of the language of Shakespeare and the themes common in his writings.

### **World Literature**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: English 10

Course Description: World Literature is a survey course designed to introduce students to a study of literature from other time periods and cultures around the world. As students study these extremely varying works, they will examine common themes that unite the different cultures. Furthermore, students will discuss how literature from ancient or distinct cultures can still relate to our lives in the modern world.

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### **Fine Arts** - Visual Arts, Musical Arts, Theatre

1.0 Fine Arts credit is required for graduation.

Art is not something separate from life, but something at the heart of life which celebrates the fact that we are creator children of a Creator God." Steve Turner

#### **Applied Design**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10, 11, 12

Course Description: Applied Design will introduce students to the art of functional design. Students will explore areas such as Architecture, Interior Design, Industrial Design, and Fashion Design using various materials and programs. Students will design and build a model home, create an interior design for a room in the home they design, work at designing a wearable piece of art (fashion, millinery, jewelry, cobbling, etc...), as well as explore Industrial Design (practice of designing products, devices, objects, and services used by people during everyday living). This course is designed to give students experiences into creative problem solving while learning the story of design to discover their God-given abilities to create.

#### **Art History - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 Semesters, *Course can fulfill 1 credit for Fine Art or History*

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: Any AP class, Art, or History class with a grade of B or higher and minimum GPA of 3.0

Course Description: AP Art History is designed to provide the same benefits to high school students as those provided by an introductory college course in Art Appreciation or Art History. This course will educate and enhance understanding and enjoyment of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within historical and cultural contexts. It will increase understanding of God as the Creator God and that gifts and talents in the art are given by God. In this course, students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present, and from a variety of cultures. Students will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience. AP Art History will help students develop visual literacy through discussion and written skills of comparative analysis (emphasizing descriptive and analytical writing about works of art and architecture from many cultures and time periods), and the understanding of those works in historical and sociological contexts (politics, religion, patronage, gender, function, ethnicity, and formal stylistic observations). Students scoring a 3 or above on the AP exam (1-5 possible) can receive college credit, advanced placement, or possibly both, at certain colleges/universities. AP Art History can be applied (if passed and approved by college) to either an Art History or general Art Appreciation/Humanities course in college. In some cases a 5 on the exam could count towards two classes at some universities and colleges.

#### **Band**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Course Description: Band is offered to students committed to performing in small groups and large ensemble all while developing skills on their instrument. The band performs three main concerts at NLA; two at Christmastime and the other in the spring. Other performances or activities are also planned throughout the year, such as Solo/Ensemble contest, performing at the Mall of America, and visiting Orchestra Hall.

#### **Concert Choir**

Length of Class: 2 semester, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12. Prerequisite: Audition and consent of the director

Course Description: In order to be successful, any choir must demand excellence from each individual member. The individual contribution to such a group must reflect a measure of self-discipline and a desire for growth towards a positive attitude, excellence in skill performance, and useful knowledge of the subject matter. This talent comes to each one of us from God and we must give Him the credit for our musical ability. Highlights of High School Choir are choir tour every other year, singing at the Mall of America, and MSHSL Large Contest.

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### **Digital Photography I**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*  
Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Requirement: Students must provide their own DSLR camera

Course Description: Digital Photography will look into the world and artists of digital photography. The class will be split up into 5 sections: History of digital photography, learning how to use your camera, learning how to use Photoshop/Lightroom, 8-10 photography projects based off of 8-10 styles of photography and a final project. Students will be graded based on effort, execution and planning, as well as weekly exercises and participation. The class will include a field trip at the end of the semester to exercise all the techniques that have been learned.

### **Digital Photography II**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*  
Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite: Digital Photography I

Course Requirement: Students must provide their own DSLR camera

Course Description: Digital Photography II is a continuation of what is learned in Digital Photography I.

### **Drama-Acting**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit  
Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite: MS Drama, Musical Theatre, or being in an NLA production

Course Description: This course is a comfortable way to learn and develop skills in creative dramatics, acting, and directing. Units of study will involve basic to complex areas of acting including emotional development, physical movement, and improvisation. This course is an exciting way to develop poise in front of a group while experiencing the thrill of involvement in theater. This course will also help develop communication skills as the students direct their peers in an ensemble setting.

### **Film Photography & Printmaking**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit (offered every other year)  
Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

This class will focus on 2D art in the areas of Printmaking and Film Photography. Students will learn basic photography concepts and composition using film formats and developing processes in the Darkroom. Students will also explore the fundamentals of printmaking through Screen Printing by creating t-shirts and Intaglio illustrations. This course is designed to give students experiences into unique art forms in order to discover their God-given abilities to create.

### **Graphic Design I**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Course can fulfill a .5 credit of Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*  
Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: An art class or technology class recommended.

Course Description: The ability to visually solve problems is what defines graphic design, and its effectiveness is measured by a designer's ability to convey the message they seek to send through a variety of channels including logos, posters, advertisements, website, package design, branding material, etc. In this class we will examine these platforms and others, as well as look at the history, theory, and the tools that can be used to achieve effective graphic design. This course will introduce students in the basic language and principles of Graphic Design. Students will learn the basics of good design by using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop software applications, as well as illustration to create various designs. This is a great class for those pursuing Marketing, Design, Communication, or Visual Arts. Students will grow in understanding of God as the Creator God and how art, imagination, and creating is worship to God.

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### **Graphic Design II**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Can fulfill .5 credit of Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: Graphic Design I with a grade of B or higher

Course Description: In this class you will continue to examine the history, theory, and tools that can be used to create effective Graphic Design. Students will use the language and principles of Graphic Design to create successful Graphic Design. Students will expand their knowledge of Adobe Illustrator & Photoshop, and additionally learn Adobe InDesign & Animate software applications to create various media, communication, and design. Students will build a creative environment which fosters innovation and encouragement to have all students develop the process of communicating information through creative applications and collaboration.

### **Intro to Filmmaking**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course requirements:

A camera or phone with video capabilities. It is preferable that it is one with a manual focus.

A portable external hard drive (at least 350 GB)

An SD card with at least 16 GB

Headphones

Course Description: In this course, students are introduced to the basics of filmmaking. With a focus on technical and narrative structure, students produce short narrative and documentary projects through individual and group work. Topics include basic cinematography, camera shots and movements, basic light techniques, editing techniques, and introductory sound design. Students will acquire hands-on experience in digital film production.

### **Morningstar**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Audition, consent of the director, two years of Choir or current enrollment in Choir.

Course Description: Morningstar is a performance based, ministry oriented, touring, music group. Students must audition in the spring prior to the year they wish to participate. The class meets three mornings a week before school to prepare for presentations at New Life chapel services as well as at other schools, churches, and places where invitations are extended. Highlights of Morningstar are singing, MSHSL Large Competition, IDS Tower, the Mall of America, and a tour every other year.

### **New Life News**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1.0credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: Application approval

During this course, students will learn how to research, write and report the news that is relevant to New Life Academy. There will be a limited number of positions available and include gaffer, reporter, researcher, script writer, director and co-producer, however, all students involved will take part in the whole process.

### **Painting & Drawing**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit (offered every other year)

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Studio Art recommended

Course Description: This class will explore and introduce students to drawing and painting concepts, processes, and techniques using a variety of media, including pencil, pen, ink, watercolor, acrylic, and oil while working with a wide and challenging range of subject matter.

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### **Pep Band**

Length of Class: Full Year Extracurricular

Students in 6-12th grade are welcome to be a part of this ensemble that plays for multiple home sporting events (Fall through the Winter). The students will play upbeat, energetic pieces to keep the teams' spirits high and the fans cheering! Rehearsals are after school once a week during the Fall, with occasional rehearsals during the Winter. Students get free admission to the games.

### **Sculpture**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite: Studio Art recommended

Course Description: The course is designed to give an introductory experience to 3D/sculpture as part of visual arts using various mediums such as wood, clay, metal, plaster, and paper. Students will explore movements, works, and artists within sculpture, architecture, industrial design, and monumental design while discovering God-given abilities in a fun and challenging atmosphere. This is a great class for students who need Fine Arts credits but feel they are not artistically inclined.

### **Studio Art**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Description: Studio art is an introductory foundation art course for students wanting to develop and improve basic art skills and knowledge of artists, mediums, techniques, and art processes. Emphasis is placed on the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design in order for students to create expressive, but well-organized works of art. This course is designed to give students experiences into creative problem solving using a variety of techniques and media, as well as the study of art history and art criticism to understand what art is and how art is created, while discovering their God-given abilities to create. This course is modified each semester so students may take multiple semesters.

### **Worship Arts**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Class acceptance by audition and/or interview

Course Description: The primary focus of this course is to prepare the weekly worship experience for NLA chapel, both musically and technically. Our response to the Gospel message naturally leads us to worship. Focus will be on the act of worship – why we sing together in chapel, how we worship God in our individual lives, and what the Bible says about worship. This is an opportunity for students to use the gifts the Lord has given them and have weekly ministry opportunities. This class needs students who play musical instruments and/or sing. There is also a need for students who are interested in technical elements of lights, sound, and using Pro Presenter during the worship set.

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## Health & Physical Education

*1.0 credit of Physical Education required for graduation*

*0.5 credit of Health required for graduation.*

### **Health**

Length of Class: 1 semesters, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Description: The overall theme of the course is focusing on the physical, mental, social, and spiritual aspects of Health. This class is designed to be personal and specific however, so each student can take the content and apply it to their lives as they continue on their educational journey. The following units will be covered: Mental health and stress, Depression/Suicide Awareness, Fitness, Nutrition/Eating concerns, dating/sex education and abstinence, and substance abuse. This particular health class is right for you if you want an educational building block for creating a disciplined and healthy lifestyle.

### **Physical Education**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Description: This course will provide students with opportunities towards understanding the importance of physical wellness. Each student will have the opportunity to enhance their wellness and abilities through a variety of activities and conditioning games.

### **Strength Training and Personal Fitness**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Description: Strength Training and Personal Fitness focuses on the fundamentals of weight training and will help students develop the five aspects of fitness: muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition, and cardiovascular endurance. Strength Training will be introduced as a way to improve personal fitness, and an emphasis on basic techniques and proper safety procedures will be implemented. The class will include weight training, cardiovascular conditioning, and other fitness related activities. If students want to get stronger, tone muscles, improve body composition, lower that mile time, or simply break a sweat on a consistent basis – this is the class for them!

### **Extracurricular Athletics**

Course Description: High school students who successfully complete a New Life Academy high school athletic season may receive .25 credit toward the 1.0 Physical Education graduation requirement. A maximum of two seasons (.5 credit) may be applied towards the 1.0 Physical Education graduation requirement. A P(pass) grade will be assigned for the Physical Education credit earned through the extracurricular athletic season at New Life Academy, therefore not calculating into a student's grade point average. Students may only earn Physical Education credit for New Life Academy athletics and the season must be completed during grades 9-12.

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## Mathematics

3.0 credits of mathematics are required for graduation. One credit must be Algebra II.

At New Life Academy, we believe that math benefits our students in at least four areas of their development. Those areas include (1) Professional Development, (2) Character Development, (3) Mental Development, and (4) Spiritual Development.

### Professional Development:

Having a strong grasp of mathematics opens the doors to a variety of careers that are not available to those who are not proficient in math. In fact, several studies have concluded that almost all of the top paying undergraduate degrees are math intensive.

### Character Development:

Math requires perseverance, and a willingness to be humbled in order to be successful. The process of learning math involves a cycle of trying, making mistakes, fixing mistakes, asking or seeking for help, and trying again. According to Romans 5, the process of perseverance develops character. This process is at the heart of our department philosophy.

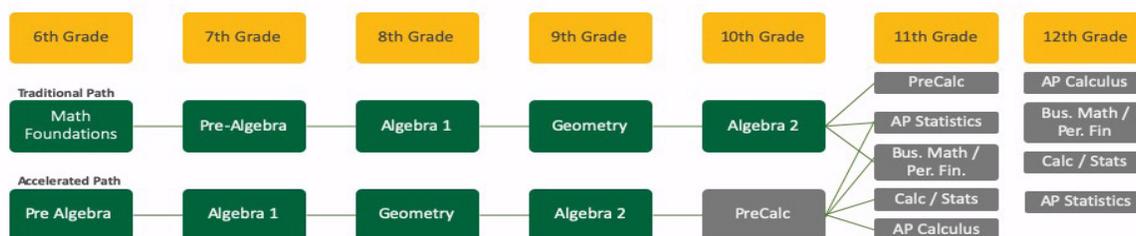
### Mental Development:

Even if a student does not pursue a math intensive career, the development of critical-thinking and problem-solving skills are invaluable. Math requires focus, analytical, and linear thinking. Unfortunately, many students only see math as a “collection of recipes” to be followed rather than an opportunity to “learn how to cook”. We strive to help our students develop an appreciation for the development of thought that math fosters.

### Spiritual Development:

Galileo said that “Math is the language with which God wrote the universe”. By studying math, we gain an appreciation for the orderliness of creation and his faithfulness to sustain it. By learning math, we discover the order and predictability that God spoke into creation and called good. By studying these patterns, we have the ability to make wise decisions as we navigate this world in stewardship to what God has given us.

While only 3 credits of math are required for graduation, we highly recommend that all New Life Academy students take four full years of math. The following schematic depicts typical math tracks at New Life Academy.



### Algebra II

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: Geometry

Course Description: The purpose of Algebra II is to teach students to think, reason, and discover algebra. Linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions will be solved using a variety of methods, including graphing. Systems of linear equations and inequalities will be explored using elimination, substitution, determinants and matrices. The exploration of complex numbers will expand the students’ use of the number system.

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### **Algebra II - Honors\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, Prerequisite: Geometry with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Course Description: This course will include all topics taught in Algebra II, but at an accelerated pace, so that additional topics may be explored. Additional topics include rational functions, introduction to probability and statistics, and further work with matrix operations.

### **Calculus\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

Course Description: Calculus is a semester long course designed for students who want to be introduced to the basic concepts of calculus without the rigor of an AP course. In this course, students will be introduced to Limits, Derivatives, and Integrals and their applications. Like AP Calculus, this class will focus on understanding the concepts and applications of calculus, mostly as they relate to physics. Unlike AP Calculus, this course will focus more on applications that can be modeled using polynomial functions and less on transcendental functions, such as logarithms, exponentials, and trigonometric. The prerequisite for this course is the successful completion of Pre-Calculus.

### **Calculus AB - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus with a grade of B+ or higher and/or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

Course Description: This is a college-level course designed to lead students in a study of the development of what has oftentimes been considered the most important innovation in mathematical thought. It relies heavily on formulas, practices, and techniques learned in geometry and algebra courses but at the same time delves much deeper into the underlying principles governing those techniques. The majority of the year is devoted to the topics of limits, derivatives, integrals, and approximation, with an emphasis on application. Throughout the course, students will work with functions that are presented four different ways: algebraically, graphically, numerically, and verbally. Students who successfully complete the course and examination may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a one-semester introductory college math course.

### **College Prep Math**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12 Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description: This course is designed for students who plan to enroll in a traditional college or university with a desire to strengthen their foundation of math concepts needed for college placement and success. This course is an overview of concepts covered in our Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 courses, but it will also expand on other concepts, such as trig identities, logarithms, combinatorics, sequences, series, probability, statistics, and conic sections. This course is meant to provide a solid overview of the topics covered in the math section of the ACT exam.

### **Geometry**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, Prerequisite: Algebra I

Course Description: This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. Geometric relationships will be explored using traditional geometric tools to perform constructions and measure figures. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are used in solving real-world applications and proving properties of parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, and polygons. Algebra skills are applied extensively with area, surface area, and volume formulas as well as the Pythagorean Theorem and basic Trigonometry.

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### **Intro to Accounting**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12 Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description: In Introduction to Accounting, students will learn the basic account principles, concepts, and terminology used in the accounting field. Some of the topics to be discussed and created using accounting software will be assets, liabilities, income statements, balance sheets, cash flows, revenues, and other accounting terminology. Accounting is used in multiple career fields to read bank and financial statements, preparing a budget for projects, project budget planning, entrepreneurship endeavors, and managing accounts. This course will give an overview of the role accounting plays in managing money in the business world.

### **Personal Finance**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Descriptions: This course will include coverage of mathematics applied to real life personal finance. Included will be solid, practical, up-to-date coverage of key personal finance issues that impact our lives daily. The list of topics include banking services, payroll deductions, taxes, insurances, stocks, bonds, mortgages, credit, charitable giving and retirement planning. We will also study money from a Biblical perspective, emphasizing God's teaching on proper stewardship of the financial resources He entrusts to us in our lives.

### **Pre-Calculus\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10, 11, 12. Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description: Pre-calculus is a course designed to prepare students for AP Calculus while also providing a rich mathematical experience for students who do not plan to take AP Calculus. The course starts with a review of algebra concepts and then moves into the topic of functions. Students will be introduced to the Twelve Basic Functions throughout the book with a major emphasis placed on exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Students will learn to work with functions using three methods: algebraic, numerical and graphical. If time allows, students will be introduced to calculus by exploring the basics of limits, derivatives, and integrals.

### **Statistics\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12 Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description: Statistics is a semester long course designed for students who want to be introduced to the basic concepts of statistics. In this course, students will be introduced to the science of understanding data. This includes exploring and understanding data graphically and numerically, exploring relationships between two variables, methods for gathering data, and randomness and probability. Inferential Statistics will be introduced and explored mostly through simulation and less through formulas. This class will be more activity based and utilize statistical software.

### **Statistics - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Course Description: AP Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

1. Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns.
2. Planning a Study: Deciding what and how to measure.
3. Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability theory and simulation.
4. Statistical Inference: Confirming models.

Students who successfully complete the course and examination may receive credit, advanced placement, or both for a one-semester introductory college statistics course.

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## Science

3.5 science credits are required for graduation. Students must have Physical Science, a Biological Science, and Chemistry or Physics.

“Since the beginning of creation, God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood by what has been made, so that men are without excuse.” Romans 1:20 (NIV)

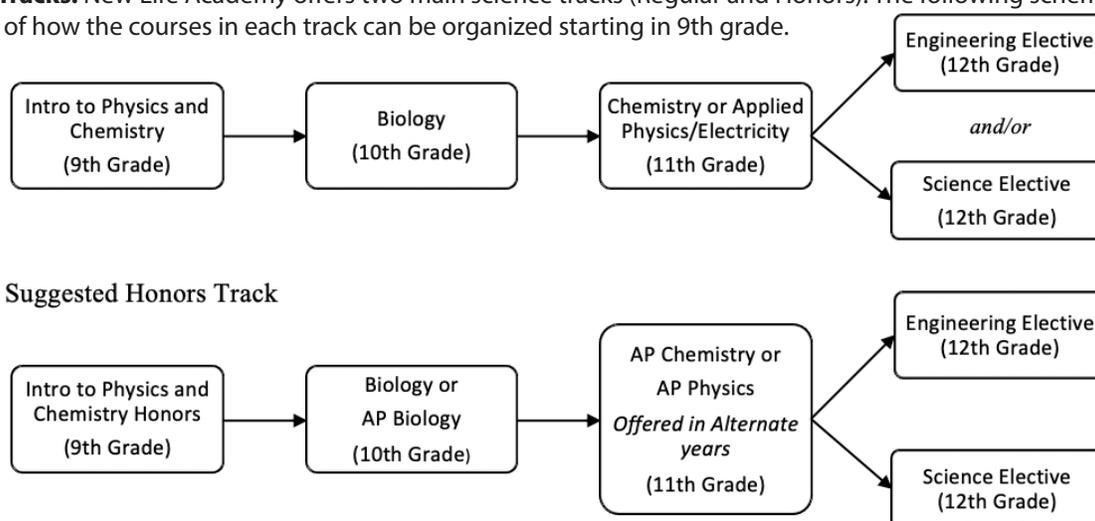
The focus of our science program is to teach a full understanding of science and engineering principles and science practices while at the same time showing how science reflects the nature of God through His creation. To accomplish these goals, we focus on having students:

- Discover the core nature of this physical world through inquiry and hands-on learning
- Gain a foundational understanding of the core principles in each subject so that students can visualize and apply their knowledge to this world.
- Learn the practices of doing science through the use of scientific instruments and technology
- Incorporate engineering practices into all of our course work
- See that all aspects of this physical world point to a designer and creator of the universe

### Highlights:

- Engineering Competitions: Each year, there are various engineering competitions in the Physics classes. The Bridge Building (strongest bridge with the least mass made of only toothpicks) and the Egg Drop Carrier (structure made of only straws and string that can carry an egg through a 5 meter drop) are some of the most popular.
- Lab Inquiry: Discovering fundamental principles of nature through problem solving – is utilized in all our science classes

**Science Tracks:** New Life Academy offers two main science tracks (Regular and Honors). The following schematic shows an example of how the courses in each track can be organized starting in 9th grade.



### 3D Modeling and Manufacturing

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit (credit can be applied to technology or science credit)

Open to Grades: 9-12

Course Description: Learn the basics of drafting and the use of CAD and Adobe Illustrator software for 3D printing and laser cutting in a project-based environment. You will design and manufacture a variety of creative products out of wood, plastic, acrylic, vinyl, cardboard, foamboard and more. Silicon molding with 3D printed masters will be explored as common methods of production and manufacturing everyday objects.

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### **Anatomy and Physiology - Honors\***

Length of Class: 2 Semesters, 1.0 credit

Open to Grades: 11-12, Prerequisite: Biology

Course Description: Anatomy and Physiology is the study of the structure and function of the human body. This course is designed for students who were successful in their biology class and who would potentially be interested in going into a medical/biological career field or who are interested in fulfilling a general college science requirement. Material will be covered in an in-depth and fast paced manner. Students are expected to put in a substantial amount of time outside of the class period (6 hours per week minimum). The class will focus on the major organ systems (integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, cardiovascular, immune, respiratory, and digestive). Diseases and disorders related to each body system will be studied. Students will often do laboratory activities. Dissections will be completed of various organs, such a heart and brain. At the end of the course, a cat will be dissected to observe how all of the body systems interact. Class time will typically be spent on process oriented guided inquiry based learning (POGIL) activities, laboratory work, cooperative quizzes and unit exams. The learning environment will emphasize interactive group work.

### **Applied Physics and Engineering\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 10-12, Prerequisite: Intro to Physics and Engineering (or equivalent), Currently enrolled or have passed Algebra II

Course Description: Applied Physics and Engineering emphasizes developing a strong conceptual understanding of physical principles and applying it to everyday experience in order to solve problems. Concepts such as motion, force, and energy will be applied to everyday life such as sports, construction design, and the making of specified devices. Laboratory activities will strongly utilize digital devices and typically have an engineering aspect to them. There will be several major engineering projects and competitions aimed to develop engineering technique and critical thinking. Algebraic mathematics will be used to solve these problems.

### **Applied Electricity and Magnetism\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 10-12, Prerequisite: Intro to Physics and Chemistry (or equivalent), Currently enrolled or have passed Algebra II

Course Description: Applied Electricity and Magnetism is an ideal continuation of Applied Physics and Engineering but can be taken as a stand-alone class. The emphasis will be placed on developing a strong conceptual understanding of physical principles and applying it to everyday life in order to solve problems. Concepts such as machines, electricity, magnetism, and electronics will be applied to everyday life such as building of machines, designing of electrical circuits, home electricity, and electronic devices. There will be several major engineering projects aimed to develop engineering technique and critical thinking. Algebraic mathematics will be used to solve these problems.

### **Biology**

Length of Class: 2 Semesters, 1.0 credit

Open to Grades: 10-12, Prerequisites: Intro to Physics and Chemistry (or equivalent)

Course Description: Biology is the study of living things. The objective of this biology course is to provide students with enough background information of the environment and living things, that they will be able to make educated decisions in their lives and to help them gain an understanding of the complexity of God's creation. Students will learn through various modes of instruction including unit-based projects, inquiry-based labs and hands-on activities. The goal of the course is that students will have met the basic state standards in biology required for graduation. Students completing this course will have a strong foundation if they wish to take future biology related classes. The major units covered include The Nature of Life, Ecology, Cells, Heredity, Genetics, Evolution, Diversity of Life, and Ecology.

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### **Biology- AP\***

Length of Class: 2 Semesters (and summer work), 1.0 credit

Open to Grades 11-12; 10th by dept. approval, Prerequisite: Summer work completed at proficiency level (or Biology)

Course Description: The AP Biology course covers topics typically found in a first-year college biology course and advances the student's understanding of concepts normally covered in high school biology. It provides a solid preparation for the AP Biology exam. Major course units include chemistry of life, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, cell communication and cell cycle, heredity, genetics, natural selection, and ecology. This course includes a laboratory component designed to meet College Board standards and has been reviewed and approved by the College Board. Students can expect challenging content, a rigorous pace, extensive lab work, a significant time commitment to studying and reading, and MANY REWARDS for putting in all of the effort it takes to be successful in AP Biology.

### **Chemistry**

Length of class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to grade: 10-12, Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Intro to Chemistry (or equivalent)

Course Description: The Chemistry course emphasizes developing a strong visual model of how atoms and molecules behave and interact with each other. Each unit is structured around a laboratory experiment. Laboratory activities and problem solving will be utilized to solve these problems by using correct measuring and analyzing of chemical processes. Throughout the course, emphasis is also given to recognizing how matter is detailed, ordered, and complex. This aspect gives strong evidence that the universe we live in did not come by chance but was designed by our Creator. The first semester emphasizes the structure of the atom and the structure of matter while the second semester emphasizes chemical reactions and chemical energy.

### **Chemistry - AP\***

Length of class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to grade(s): 10-12, Prerequisite: Summer work completed at proficiency level (or Chemistry), Algebra II with B or higher and GPA of 3.0

Course Description: The AP Chemistry course follows the material similar to an introduction chemistry course at a university. It is a survey course that covers all aspects of Chemistry. Much of the understanding involves extensive mathematical calculations where the knowledge from a first high school chemistry course is applied to a deeper level, therefore, it is recommended to take this course as a second-year Chemistry course. Students may take it as their first full Chemistry course but must understand the rigor needed to be successful. Many precise laboratory experiments using digital and calibrated equipment will be performed throughout the year to gain a deeper understanding of chemistry and fulfill some of the course requirements for college credit. The first semester focuses on developing basic chemistry concepts to a deeper level, while the second semester focuses on the 5 big ideas of AP Chemistry: chemical equilibrium, thermochemistry, chemistry kinetics, acids and bases, and electrochemistry.

### **Engineering Design 1**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 9-12, Prerequisite: Algebra I

Course Description: This course will engage students in authentic engineering practices in a project-based learning environment. Learning is developed over a series of engaging and socially relevant team-based explorations and design challenges. The curriculum focuses on building engineering design skills, applying knowledge and skills from core academic courses, developing engineering habits of mind, and introducing engineering fields and professions. The content of this course, Engineer Your World, is a high school engineering curriculum developed by the Cockrell School of Engineering at University of Texas at Austin in collaboration with the National Science Foundation and NASA. Engineering Design Process and careers in Biomedical Engineering, Product Redesign, Mechanical and Chemical Engineering are topics of exploration this semester. Students have the option of taking this course as an elective at New Life Academy. The option of applying for 3 college credits from UT-Austin is available for those taking both ED1 and ED2 in the same year. For more information regarding the college credits option and the application process, please contact the teacher or the ACC office.

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### **Engineering Design 2**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 9-12, Prerequisite: Algebra I, Engineering Design 1 (if applying for UT college credit)

Course Description: The content of this course builds upon the understanding of the Engineering Design Process and using data in designing solutions to real-world problems. Design challenges this semester relate to the fields of Civil, Electrical and Systems Engineering. The collaborative nature of activities in this course mimics the work environment where engineers must consider constraints, tradeoffs and make ethical decisions. An important goal of this course is to look at engineering through the eyes of faith and Biblical principles. By looking at the life and teachings of Jesus, as well as references from the Bible pointing to God's intelligent design of the universe, students discover the Spirit-filled nature of engineering careers and the honor of designing for the good of ourselves and others. The content of this course, Engineer Your World, is a high school engineering curriculum developed by the Cockrell School of Engineering at University of Texas at Austin in collaboration with the National Science Foundation and NASA. Students seeking college credit will submit select assignment directly to the University for assessment.

### **Engineering Fundamentals**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 9-12, Prerequisite: Algebra I

Course Description: The Engineering Fundamentals course is a framework for understanding the role of engineering in everyday life and an exploration of various engineering disciplines and careers. Students in this class will engage in practical problem-solving challenges that weave science, technology, aesthetics and math into the principles of engineering design. Students will study the historical development of everyday objects and examples of where failure has led to improvements in designed solutions. Much like professional engineers, students will work in teams and record their thoughts, ideas, sketches, calculations and reflections in their engineering journals. Every unit of engineering discipline concludes with a STEM project. The coursework for this class includes Schoology discussions, reading assignments, team STEM challenge activities, engineering journals and a final individual project.

### **Independent Science Research**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 11-12. Prerequisite: Approved by the Academic, College and Career Department

Course Description: This course is designed to be an independent study where students will work on experimental research, STEAM Innovation, or college level science assignment of their choice. The students will research, design, and experiment on a research question in a field of science or engineering of their choice. The end result will be a fully analyzed project that will be submitted to a national/global competition or submit original research to a science publication. The students will work independently on literature research regarding their topic, experimental research in the lab, and understanding science concepts while having a science teacher as an advisor. This is only intended for students who are interested in pursuing science or engineering for their career and who have a strong aptitude towards scientific research that is open-ended.

### **Intro to Physics and Chemistry**

Length of class: 2 semesters, 1.0 credits

Open to grades: 9

Course Description: Intro to Physics and Chemistry is an introduction to two of the three major branches of science – physics and chemistry. The emphasis in this course is for students to obtain a solid understanding of the process of science and the major topics of physics and chemistry. This course is a lab based class focusing on hands-on understanding of each topic. STEAM is also integrated through hands on learning and interdisciplinary projects. Biblical worldview is incorporated by discussion of the beauty and complexity of God's natural world and the laws that govern it. We also discuss the complexity of God's creation at a microscopic level. Finally, it is an essential course for developing skills and framework to be successful in the upper level chemistry and biology courses.

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### **Intro to Physics and Chemistry - Honors \***

Length of class: 1 semester, 0.5 credits

Open to grades: 9, Prerequisite: Algebra I with a B or higher

Course Description: Intro to Physics and Chemistry is an introduction to two of the three major branches of science – physics and chemistry. The emphasis in this course is for students to obtain a solid understanding of the process of science and the major topics of physics and chemistry. This course is a lab based class focusing on hands-on understanding of each topic. STEAM is also integrated through hands on learning and interdisciplinary projects. In the honors course, students will receive a more in-depth understanding of each of the topics. Biblical worldview is incorporated by discussion of the beauty and complexity of God's natural world and the laws that govern it. We also discuss the complexity of God's creation at a microscopic level. Finally, it is an essential course for developing skills and framework to be successful in the upper level chemistry and AP Chemistry courses.

### **Physics - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus with B or higher and a cumulative GPA of 3.0. Completion or currently enrolled in Calculus.

Course Description: The Advanced Placement Physics C course follows the material similar to one semester of a calculus-based Physics course at a university. It focuses on the mechanics portion of Physics only. [The Physics C course by The College Board also offers a test in Electricity. However, we will not be covering that material nor will students take that portion of the AP test.] Much of the understanding involves extensive mathematical calculations and problem solving. Calculus will be used and taught throughout the course. A student enrolled in Calculus in the same year will be taught the basic calculus principles in the Physics class. Many precise laboratory experiments using digital and calibrated equipment will be performed throughout the year to gain a deeper understanding of Physics and fulfill some of the course requirements for college credit. In addition, there will be several major building competitions similar to those done in Applied Physics.

### **Renewable Energy Engineering**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 9-12, Prerequisite: Algebra I

Course Description: This course features STEAM and career connections related to energy sources, society's increasing demand for energy and the role of engineers in developing alternative solutions. Topics include comparing efficiencies, costs and benefits of using renewables (solar, wind, water, biomass, geothermal) and non-renewables (fossil, oil, natural gas) in production of heat and electricity. As mandated in the Bible, humans are the Stewards of this earth and it is important to seek ways to protect and sustain a clean environment. Students work in teams to apply engineering design principles and use technology to design and build the most efficient hydroelectric dams, wind turbines and solar structures or vehicles. The coursework for this class includes Schoology discussions, reading assignments, labs, team challenge activities, engineering journals and a final project.

### **Robotics**

Length of Class: 1 semester, 0.5 credit

Open to Grades: 9-12, Prerequisites: none

Course Description: Robotics emphasizes hands-on problem solving and engineering skills to complete a task. Throughout the semester, students will build a robot through First Tech Challenge guidelines and materials by carefully understanding and analyzing all facets of robotics. Students will develop their skills in coding, construction, engineering solutions, sensor control, 3D printing, electrical wiring, marketing, and robotic operation. This class will be offered first semester only and students will be required to be registered for the FTC robotics team that competes against other schools.

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## Social Studies

3.0 credits of Social Studies are required for graduation. (2021 graduates are required 3.5 credits of Social Studies). Economics and Civics are graduation requirements.

"We can be almost certain of being wrong about the future, if we are wrong about the past". – G. K. Chesterton. The Social Sciences reveal God's providence, man's nature, and humanities role in God's plan of justice and mercy.

### **Art History - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 Semesters, Course can fulfill 1 credit for Fine Art or History

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: Any AP class, Art, or History class with a grade of B or higher and minimum GPA of 3.0

Course Description: AP Art History is designed to provide the same benefits to high school students as those provided by an introductory college course in Art Appreciation or Art History. This course will educate and enhance understanding and enjoyment of architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within historical and cultural contexts. It will increase understanding of God as the Creator God and that gifts and talents in the arts are given by God. In this course, students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present, and from a variety of cultures. Students will learn to look at works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience. AP Art History will help students develop visual literacy through discussion and written skills of comparative analysis (emphasizing descriptive and analytical writing about works of art and architecture from many cultures and time periods), and the understanding of those works in historical and sociological contexts (politics, religion, patronage, gender, function, ethnicity, and formal stylistic observations). Students scoring a 3 or above on the AP exam (1-5 possible) can receive college credit, advanced placement, or possibly both, at certain colleges/universities. AP Art History can be applied (if passed and approved by college) to either an Art History or general Art Appreciation/Humanities course in college. In some cases a 5 on the exam could count towards two classes at some universities and colleges.

### **Civics**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

Course Description: The purpose of this class is to provide a broad knowledge and understanding of the history, philosophy and workings of the political system on a local, national and global level. The class will study civic skills, civic values and principles of democracy, rights and responsibilities, governmental institutions and political processes, and relationships of the U.S. to other nations and organizations. Students will be challenged to think critically about their own relationship and role in politics and how this understanding fits within a broader Christian worldview.

### **Comparative World Governments**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

Course Description: Comparative Government is designed to provide students with an overview of the major governmental systems including democracy in the United States. Students will study the concept of country, government, and the political culture in such countries as Britain, France, Germany, Russia, China, and India and compare those governments and political cultures to democracy in the United States. Students will learn to work individually and collaboratively in groups thinking critically and writing analytically about living as a Christian and as a global citizen in this world.

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### **Cultural Anthropology**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: World History and US History

Course Description: This course is a holistic, comparative approach to the study of human culture, with specific application to Christian evangelization and mission. Topics include cultural diversity and adaptive strategies, language, marriage, and kinship, religious beliefs and rituals, politics, economics, art, types of groups, social change, and issues of culture contact and cultural survival. The course is designed to prepare us for work and Christian service within other cultures. Thus a critical view of cultural anthropology as it relates to theology will lead us to our main concern, and that is missiology – the study and practice of God’s mission in the world. We will make a conscious effort to maintain a “discussion” between anthropology, theology, and missiology. Through this learning process, we will be challenged, inspired, and empowered to reflect missiologically on our cross-cultural participation in God’s mission in the world.

### **Economics**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

Course Description: This course introduces students to the basic principles of micro and macroeconomics including the following: what is economics, economic systems, American free enterprise, demand, supply, prices, market structures, business organizations, labor, money and banking, financial markets, GDP and growth, economic challenges, taxes and government spending, fiscal policy, the Federal Reserve and monetary policy, international trade, development and globalization. Also there will be case studies of different career fields.

### **European History - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP) with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0

Course Description: AP European History is designed to develop the interpretive, analytical, writing and historical thinking skills, and the factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with a variety of historical materials in European History. This class has two main goals. One is to prepare you to pass the AP Exam in European History through document-based essay writing and long essay writing, short answer and in-depth document analysis, and the critical thinking skills necessary for college level multiple choice questions. The more important of the two goals of this class is to develop more perceptive and informed students, and to prepare students for the rigors of college level work with the writing, time management, and critical thinking skills they will need to excel at the next level. AP European History will cover Renaissance Europe through the Modern Day with emphasis on the years 1450-1970. Students will have to know not simply what happened, but why, how, and why it was significant. Students will learn to assess historical materials – their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance – to weigh the evidence presented in historical scholarship and primary source materials. Students will learn to work collaboratively and individually, and to think and write critically, analytically, and articulately. Enthusiasm for history and hard work will have as much to do with success in AP European History and on the AP Exam as ability.

### **Psychology - PSEO\***

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

\*\* This is an On-site PSEO college class taught at New Life Academy, for which students will receive 4 college credits. It is a challenging, rigorous course, and students should be able to read at a college level. Students MUST fill out PSEO forms online at the University of Northwestern, St. Paul in order to take this class.

Course Description: PSEO Psychology is designed to provide students with an overview of the study of psychology from a Christian worldview. Students will study areas of psychology such as child development, the brain, perception, classical conditioning, operant conditioning, information processing, social psychology, and intelligence. Students will learn to work individually and collaboratively in groups responding to one another in both verbal and written form as well as think critically and reflectively.

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### **Sociology**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12. Prerequisite: US History (regular or AP)

Course Description: Sociology is designed to provide students with an overview of the major sociological theorists and theories, as well as integrating those theories into a study of human relationships. Emphasis is placed on the integration of Christian Worldview into the study of Sociology. Students will compare the secular worldview of Sociology with the Christian Worldview. Students will learn to think critically through Sociology fieldwork activities, the study and in-depth analysis of sociological scholarship, class discussion, and various writing activities. In all of these ways students will learn to articulate a Christian Worldview on important social and cultural issues in today's world.

### **United States History**

Length of Class: 2 semester, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10. Prerequisite: World History and Geography

Course Description: United States history is designed to provide students with an overview of American history from the prerevolutionary era through the modern day. Specific emphasis is placed on the integration of Christian worldview into the study of American History. When Christian faith and worldview are integrated into the teaching of history, history comes alive with meaning and purpose. History becomes a journey with an end. Every act and event then has moral significance and thus is important to understand. Students are taught their actions matter and ethics are not just situational. Students will learn to work individually and in collaborative groups, to write and think critically and articulately, to interact with media, the written word, and historical interpretation, and to conduct themselves with humility, grace, and intelligence.

### **United States History - AP\***

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10. Prerequisite: World History and Geography with a grade of B or higher and a minimum GPA of 3.0

Course Description: AP United States History is designed to develop the interpretive, analytical, writing and historical thinking skills, and the factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with a variety of historical materials in American History. This class has two main goals. One is to prepare you to pass the AP Exam in United States History through document-based essay writing and long essay writing, short answer and in-depth document analysis, and the critical thinking skills necessary for college level multiple choice questions. The more important of the two goals of this class is to develop more perceptive and informed students, and to prepare students for the rigors of college level work with the writing, time management, and critical thinking skills they will need to excel at the next level. AP United States History will cover the Pre-Revolutionary Era through the modern day in American History. Students will have to know not simply what happened, but why, how, and why it was significant. Students will learn to assess historical materials – their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance – to weigh the evidence presented in historical scholarship and primary source materials. Students will learn to work collaboratively and individually, and to think and write critically, analytically, and articulately. Enthusiasm for history and hard work will have as much to do with success in AP United States History and on the AP Exam as ability.

### **World History & Geography**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9

Course Description: World History and Geography is designed to help students achieve several goals: 1) familiarize themselves with the basic facts of geography, history, and culture that every educated person needs to know to be an informed citizen of the world; 2) provide a foundation for later courses in many fields which assume such general knowledge; 3) illustrate the rich variety of ways that human beings have found of living in civilizations from God's creation to modern times; and 4) stimulate student's curiosity to learn more.

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## Technology

*0.5 credit of Technology is required for graduation.*

### **Computer Science Principles**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12. Prerequisite: Intermediate Technology Recommended

Course Description: This course is an introduction to computer science and software engineering to understand the study of computers, developing software applications and computational processes. Students will learn a variety of programming systems and languages to create interactive systems and applications. Students will learn problem solving, software design, debugging strategies, and the foundations of computer science (data structures, procedures, and algorithms). Students will work on projects in the areas of software systems, graphics, computational science and software engineering.

### **Digital Photography I**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

*Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Course Requirement: Students must provide their own DSLR camera

Course Description: Digital Photography will look into the world and artists of digital photography. The class will be split up into 5 sections: History of digital photography, learning how to use your camera, learning how to use Photoshop/Lightroom, 8-10 photography projects based off of 8-10 styles of photography and a final project. Students will be graded based on effort, execution and planning, as well as weekly exercises and participation. The class will include a field trip at the end of the semester to exercise all the techniques that have been learned.

### **Digital Photography II**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite: Digital Photography I

*Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Course Requirement: Students must provide their own DSLR camera

Course Description: Digital Photography II is a continuation of what is learned in Digital Photography I.

### **Graphic Design I**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: An art class or technology class recommended.

*Course can fulfill a .5 credit of Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Course Description: The ability to visually solve problems is what defines graphic design, and its effectiveness is measured by a designer's ability to convey the message they seek to send through a variety of channels including logos, posters, advertisements, website, package design, branding material, etc... In this class we will examine these platforms and others, as well as look at the history, theory, and the tools that can be used to achieve effective graphic design This course will introduce students in the basic language and principles of Graphic Design. Students will learn the basics of good design by using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop software applications, as well as illustration to create various designs. This is a great class for those pursuing Marketing, Design, Communication, or Visual Arts. Students will grow in understanding of God as the Creator God and how art, imagination, and creating is worship to God.

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### **Graphic Design II**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: Graphic Design I with a 3.0 or higher

*Can fulfill .5 credit of Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Course Description: In this class you will continue to examine the history, theory, and tools that can be used to create effective Graphic Design. Students will use the language and principles of Graphic Design to create successful Graphic Design. Students will expand their knowledge of Adobe Illustrator & Photoshop, and additionally learn Adobe InDesign & Animate software applications to create various media, communication, and design. Students will build a creative environment which fosters innovation and encouragement to have all students develop the process of communicating information through creative applications and collaboration.

### **Intermediate Technology**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12. Prerequisite: none

Course Description: Students will develop digital communication skills through a variety of software and online tools. Students will learn 21st century skills by experiencing real-world applications for collaborating with classmates and problem solving. The tools learned in this class will empower students to better express themselves and showcase their knowledge. By working with technology as part of project based curriculum, students more easily develop the essential, lifelong digital communication skills they will need in virtually all their academic and professional pursuit. Intermediate to advanced capabilities in the areas of photo/video editing, web design and desktop publishing will be covered.

### **Intro to Filmmaking**

Length of Class: 1 semester, *Course can fulfill a .5 credit for Fine Arts or .5 credit for Technology*

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course requirements:

A camera or phone with video capabilities. It is preferable that it is one with a manual focus.

A portable external hard drive (at least 350 GB)

An SD card with at least 16 GB

Headphones

Course Description: In this course, students are introduced to the basics of filmmaking. With a focus on technical and narrative structure, students produce short narrative and documentary projects through individual and group work. Topics include basic cinematography, camera shots and movements, basic light techniques, editing techniques, and introductory sound design. Students will acquire hands-on experience in digital film production.

### **Publications**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12. Prerequisite: none

Course Description: Publications is an elective offered to high school students who desire to be part of the team that develops NLA's yearbook and newspaper. Students will exercise creativity while developing skills in project planning, desktop publishing, photography, journalism, marketing, and sales. Publications is a fun, yet challenging class, as students are required to follow specific guidelines for project consistency, independently manage their time and resources, and complete top quality assignments by all deadlines set. The publications team is ultimately responsible for collecting memories throughout the year and will work together to record them in an unforgettable way.

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### World Language

*2.0 credits of World Language are required for graduation. Both credits must be the same language.*

God reveals himself through language and culture. The study of languages and cultures enables us to gain knowledge, explore ideas, and communicate effectively. It is by nature an integrated study of literature, reading, writing, listening and speaking. Through languages we strengthen our relationship with God and are able to communicate his message to others close to home and around the world.

#### **Spanish I**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11

Course Description: Spanish I is intended to instruct students in the development of their interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in Spanish. This will be done by performing an assortment of language functions: to list, to ask questions, to describe, to narrate, to write on a variety of topics, and to converse on familiar topics. These will be learned in different contexts, such as at home, in school and through videos, music, role-playing or games. Topics covered include the classroom and school environment, daily life, clothing, food, sports, family, making plans, and culture.

#### **Spanish II**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 10, 11, 12, Prerequisite: Spanish I

Course Description: Spanish II continues education in the Spanish language. Students will be performing an assortment of language functions: to give and follow directions, to narrate, to express opinions and defend them both orally and in written work, to hypothesize, to read short stories and articles, to write on a variety of topics such as chores, hobbies, parts of the body and travel, and to converse on familiar topics from Spanish I. These will be learned in similar contexts as in Level I such as at home, in school, and in the community. Topics that will be covered include daily routine, conversational tools to get to know others, staying fit and healthy, discussing the past, and life in the community.

#### **Spanish III**

Length of Class: 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Spanish II

Course Description: Spanish III is intended to advance the students' development of their interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in Spanish. This will be done using these main objectives: to review basic grammar and provide an overview of all common verb tenses, to develop vocabulary and grammar structures (including new tenses that do not exist in English), and to expand knowledge of and appreciation for Hispanic people and cultures. They will discuss topics such as family, jobs and professions, nature and environment, and free-time activities. The students will also go to a play or an enrichment activity in the fall or spring, in a St. Paul or Minneapolis Spanish neighborhood, with the CIS Spanish class.

#### **CIS Spanish\***

Length of Class: fall semester SPA201, spring semester SPA202, 2 semesters, 1 credit

Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Prerequisite: Spanish III with a grade of B or higher and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

Course Description: This class is intended to advance the students' development of their interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in Spanish and increase their appreciation for Hispanic people and cultures. Students will develop their communication skills in Spanish, explore a variety of traditional and contemporary topics from different worldviews, and review grammar studied thus far and learning more complex forms of grammar. Students will discuss perspectives within our own cultures and how these differ from or coincide with those within Hispanic cultures. Students will focus on the controversial topic of immigration from Latino/a perspectives examining the result of various economic, political and socio-cultural factors that push immigrants out of their homeland and to the United States. Students will read two novels as well as work on two workbooks on the two past tenses and the subjunctive mood. *Please Note: There is an additional fee of \$600 (\$195 per semester plus book) required for this course. In addition to high school credit, students will receive 6 Bethel University college level credits.*

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## **Additional Opportunities**

### **PSEO Class**

Length of Class: 1 sem, .5 US credit will be given for a 1-2 college credit class, 1 US credit will be given for a 3-4 college credit class  
Open to Grade(s): 11, 12

Course Description: Students will be given a PSEO Class period for time to work on their Online PSEO course they previously registered for. If students are interested in signing up for the PSEO Class and have time in their day to work on courses they must meet the college requirement, submit application to college and submit the MN State Form to the NLA registrar. After the registrar receives and fills out the MN State Form, the student is responsible for sending all paperwork to the college and must meet all deadlines.

### **Study Hall**

Length of Class: 1 semester, no credit  
Open to Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12 Prerequisite: none

Course Description: Study Hall is a class period in which students apply themselves to learning and understanding through completion of assignments, studying, and reading. It can also provide students with an opportunity to access the school library, counseling office, and to obtain individual help with assignments from staff. Study Hall decorum includes reporting to Study Hall on time with materials to stay occupied throughout the entire period. Materials considered inappropriate for school are not allowed in Study Hall. Students are required to maintain a quiet study environment and follow established protocol for leaving Study Hall for other destinations.

### **Teacher/Staff Aide**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit  
Open to Grade(s): 11, 12, Grading: Pass/Fail

Course Description: Aide positions are subject to availability. Interested students will be placed based upon faculty/staff needs. The aide positions provide students with vocational experience in an educational setting. Aides have the opportunity to practice professional skills in a realistic occupational position. Students are expected to report to aide assignments just as any other class and to give their supervisor advance notice of upcoming absences (doctor/dentist appointments, sports events, etc.) Earning credit depends on attendance and performance.

### **ELL (English Language Learners)**

Length of Class: 1 semester, .5 credit  
Required for all International Students 1st year at NLA

Course Description: The design of the English Language Learners (ELL) program is to support the academic, cultural and social emotional wellbeing of our English Language Learners (ELL). In this course, students will know how to understand and apply learning strategies with increasing proficiency for success in the general education classroom. The course also functions as a bridge for interschool relationships and social activities, as well as a platform for intercultural comparisons, critical thinking and self-advocacy development, as well as seasonal and holiday vernacular. Students will integrate background knowledge with increased English language skills resulting in a successful whole student transition to New Life Academy.

### **Internship**

Course Description: In this course, students will have the opportunity to work as an intern at a company to explore career pathways that are available in the workforce. In addition, students will receive insight on what education is needed in order to become employed in the field of work, receive mentoring by upper management to gain a better sense of how this career operates and get hands-on experience of the day to day activities. Some opportunities may be after school or weekends. Students must:

- Be enrolled at NLA in 11th or 12th grade and be passing all current courses or passed all courses from the previous semester
- Apply and submit letters of recommendation
- Some internships will require prerequisite NLA courses to be completed prior to being selected as a candidate
- Provide own transportation

# New Life Academy Upper School Course Catalog 2020-21

## Academic, College, Career Department

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# New Life Academy