



North Dallas Adventist Academy Upper School Course Listing

www.ndaAcademy.org
2800 Custer Parkway, Richardson, Texas 75080

972-234-6322

UPPER SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible

Bible I-Encounter Curriculum (1 credit)

This course begins with an interactive study of God: the reality of who He is, His character, and finally a focus on the personal relationship with Him. Emphasis is placed on Jesus' life and ministry on earth, the cross, and His resurrection. During the second semester, students will study the gifts of God of Creation and the Sabbath, giving the students an understanding of origin and the restoration that God desires with us. Secondly God's gifts of Grace and Identity will be discovered through the Old Testament narrative giving the students a correct understand of God's grace and our identity in Him.

Bible II-Encounter Curriculum (1 credit)

This course begins with a study of the stories of Hosea, David, and Ruth, examining God's relentless pursuit of humanity and what it means to be a person after God's own heart. Students will then study the messages of Jesus, finding in them encouragement, inspiration, and a deeper connection with Jesus. During the second semester, students will study the early Christian church, their servant leadership, and desire to live their lives after God's own heart. Students will also analyze and discover how we can daily live after God's own heart in each area of our lives.

Bible III-Encounter Curriculum (1 credit)

Bible III begins with a study on God's Word. Students will examine and discover the trustworthiness and reliability of God's Word, the Bible, in both history and our lives. Students will then study God As Our Victor. Here students will study the Book of Daniel, discovering how the prophecies of the past help us trust that God will continue to lead in the present and future. Students will then study the Book of Revelation to understand that God is My Victor. Students will discover in prophecies past and future that as long as we cling to Jesus we will be saved and conquer! Finally students will study the history of the Adventist Church discovering that God is My Guide. Students will learn that as He has led His people in the past He will continue to do the same now and in the future.

Bible IV-Crossroads Curriculum (1 credit)

This course begins with the Gospel of John, a gospel written around AD 90 to the those who had never seen Jesus. This uniquely relevant gospel allows us to study Jesus' ministry through stories of miracles, teachings, and Jesus' passion for humanity, written for those just like us. Students will analyze current world views and major world religions and compare them in light of the Bible and Christianity, determining the need for truth and reliability, and a God that we can trust. Students will learn about how to start and maintain a successful marriage and family that is God centered in our world today. Throughout the two semesters students will be forming and determining their life philosophy including beliefs, moral code, and future life goals.

Computer Technology

Computer Science (1 credit)

This course introduces the student to basic keyboarding and information processing. The student will learn Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Computer Technology (1 credit)

This course introduces the student to basic digital photo and video editing techniques from popular editing software like Adobe Photoshop.

English

English I (1 credit)

English I is the required, first-year course for the secondary language arts curriculum relating to the development of oral and written communication skills. A specific emphasis is placed on enhancing reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through the critical interpretation of literature. Students will read and analyze literature, gain and refine a more complicated voice in their essay writing, learn to recognize literary elements in literature and drama, and develop the speaking and listening skills needed in discussion.

English II (1 credit)

English II is the required, second-year course for the secondary language arts curriculum. Emphasis is placed on higher levels of student performance with more complex assignments. Students will more keenly develop higher-level thinking skills, as well as be able to demonstrate the ability to critically analyze specific writing styles and more sophisticated pieces of world literature and drama. Students will hone their writing, reading, and oral language skills in English II. Students will develop the speaking skills needed in both small and large-group discussions, write essays of greater length and level of sophistication, demonstrate the proper use of the MLA format for all assignments, do research of a more in-depth nature with a broader range of sources and an original thesis, and read and analyze a higher level of literature in terms of language, literary elements, and thematic content.

English III (1 credit)

English III is the required, third-year course for the secondary language arts curriculum relating to the development of oral and written communication skills. Emphasis is placed on higher levels of student performance with more complex assignments and materials. Students will read and analyze literature of higher levels of difficulty in terms of language use and thematic content, use more precise language, do research of a more in-depth nature, develop the speaking skills needed in discussions, and write essays of greater complexity. Through their study of literature and drama, students will also develop knowledge of and an appreciation for American literary traditions.

English IV (1 credit)

English IV is the required, fourth-year course for secondary language arts curriculum relating to the development of oral and written communication skills. Emphasis is placed on higher levels of student performance with more complex assignments and materials. Students will read and analyze literature of higher levels of difficulty in terms of language use, rhetorical strategies, and thematic content, while using more precise language, completing research of a more in-depth nature, developing the speaking skills needed in discussions, and writing essays of greater complexity. Through their study of literature and drama, students will also develop knowledge of and an appreciation for British literary traditions.

AP English Language and Composition: AP III (1 credit)

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

AP English Literature and Composition: AP IV (1 credit)

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

Creative Writing (1/2 credit)

This course may be accepted as the 4th year of English for a student working towards the Foundation Diploma or may be accepted as an elective for a student working towards the Foundation + Multi-Disciplinary Endorsement. This is a rigorous composition course that is offered to student in grades 11 or 12. Students must have completed English III or be concurrently enrolled in English III. The student's writing skills are strengthened through a study different forms and genres in a writing workshop environment. The course emphasizes the use of the writing process and the effective applications of language. Students will become familiar with self- and peer-evaluation and goal-setting.

Research & Technical Writing (1/2 credit)

The study of technical writing allows students to develop skills necessary for writing informative texts such as reports, proposals, memoranda, and essays. This rigorous composition course has students skillfully research a topic or a variety of topics and present information through a variety of media. All students are expected to demonstrate an understanding of the recursive nature of the writing process, effectively applying the conventions of usage and the mechanics of written English. The students will be given opportunity to become familiar with self- and peer-evaluation and goal-setting.

Speech (1/2 credit)

This course consists of the study and application of public speaking methods and techniques. This course will not only help prepare the student for speaking opportunities, but will enhance the confidence level and self-esteem of the student -- both in private and public settings.

Fine Arts

Choir (1 credit)

Choir is a performance-oriented vocal group that focuses on singing at various churches and other school and local church events throughout the year. Skills such as reading music, sightreading, musicality, and correct vocal production are developed throughout

the year. The student will need to purchase performance attire that is to be worn at performances.

Advanced Band (1 credit)

The Advanced Band is a performance-based class open to all upper school students. The band will perform throughout the school year at school programs, church services and school concerts. Rhythm, performance skills, and musical interpretations are emphasized. The student will need to rent or purchase an instrument, in addition to purchasing performance attire that is to be worn at performances.

Yearbook/Journalism (1 credit)

Throughout the school year, students on the yearbook team will construct a layout, take photographs of students, write headlines and captions, and work toward documenting a memorable school year. Students will receive experience in the areas of journalism, graphic design, editing, photography, etc.

Art (1 credit)

Students produce media specific designs using basic techniques in relation to historical and cultural contents. The focus of the first semester will be drawing, and the focus of the second semester will be painting.

Theater Arts (1 credit)

This course is designed as introduction to the fundamentals of theater production, including the role of the actor in the interpretation of dramatic literature, the development of the physical theater, theater history, and dramatic literature.

Foreign Language

Spanish I (1 credit)

This course covers elementary Spanish and basic verb conjugation in past, present, and future. Vocabulary consists of everyday activities, common objects, and entertainment. Students will be able to respond appropriately when questioned in Spanish, pronounce words correctly, and read and understand passages.

Spanish II (1 credit)

This course expands on the elementary Spanish learned previously in Spanish I. Basic reading, speaking, listening and writing skills are expanded and refined. Paragraph writing is developed. The culture of Spanish-speaking countries is explored. Grammar development includes conjugation of basic verbs, possessive adjectives and pronouns, and negative and affirmative words.

Health

Health (1/2 credit)

Health emphasizes the importance of knowledge, attitudes, and practices relating to personal health and wellness. This health class will be designed to help the students become exposed to a broad range of issues and information relating to the personal health triangle which are physical, social, emotional/spiritual. Topics we will explore will include, but are not limited to: nutrition, physical fitness, stress, friendships, neglect recognition, schools against violence in education, and weight management.

Mathematics

Algebra I (1 credit)

This course provides development of critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in the areas of operations with real numbers, linear equations and inequalities, relations and functions, polynomial and non-linear equations.

Geometry (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Algebra I This course surveys the properties and applications of common geometric shapes using definitions, theorems, and postulates in the study of angles, parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, rectilinear figures, polygons, circles and arc, and the Pythagorean Theorem. Trigonometry and the process of "proving" theorems is introduced.

Algebra II (1 credit)

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry This course is a review of skills learned in Algebra I as well as development in the areas of linear equations in one and two variables, systems of linear equations, polynomials, and rational expressions, quadratic equations in one and two variables, quadratic systems, logarithms, sequences and series, and trigonometric functions.

Mathematical Models (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry This course builds on the foundations of Algebra I and Geometry and is designed for the student that needs an in-depth review of algebraic and geometric concepts. Students use algebraic, graphical, and geometric reasoning to recognize patterns and structure, to model information and to solve problems from various disciplines.

Pre-Calculus (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Algebra II This course provides extended investigations into functions, including logarithmic, trigonometric, and polar functions, as well as vectors, complex numbers, sequences and second-degree relations.

Dual-Credit Pre-Calculus (1/2 credit). College Credit through SDA college or university - See Principal for more information.

Dual-Credit Calculus (1/2 credit). College Credit through SDA college or university -- See Principal for more information.

Physical Education

Physical Education (1 credit)

This course is designed to teach the fundamental skills of various team sports as well as to improve general fitness.

Physical Education (1/2 credit)

This half-year course is designed to refine the skills of various team sports, as well as to improve general fitness.

Science

Integrated Physics & Chemistry (IPC) (1 credit)

This two-semester course is a broad and introductory study of physics and chemistry, typically taught as a first year high school science class. The student will conduct field and laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations, and make informed decisions using critical-thinking and scientific problem-solving. Major topics of study will include energy, machines, stability, atomic structure, organic and biological compounds, waves, sound light, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear chemistry and physics.

Biology (1 credit)

This two-semester courses provides the student the opportunity to appreciate the beauty and order of the living organisms of God's creation during this one-year survey study of life science. Emphasizes basic understanding of cell, genetics and heredity, and ecology.

Chemistry (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Integrated Physics and Chemistry. This two-semester course is essential for the college-bound student. The scope and sequence of the course allows the development of basic chemistry concepts and principles. Students are given opportunities to apply mathematical and analytical reasoning to problem solving in chemistry. Topics of study are scientific measurement, classification of matter, atomic structure, periodicity, chemical formulas and naming compounds, nuclear reactions, balancing chemical equations and stoichiometry, and behavior of gases and the energy of equations.

Anatomy and Physiology (1 credit)

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry. This two-semester course examines the human body, system by system, while expounding on how God designed the parts to function together as a harmonious, living unit. Students will gain a deeper understanding of how their own bodies work, the importance of healthy lifestyle choices, and the best practices for the prevention and treatment of disease.

Physics (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Integrated Physics and Chemistry This course is the study of Newton's laws of motion and acceleration, forces, gravity, friction, energy, momentum, thermodynamics, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, atomic physics, and nuclear physics.

Environmental Science (1 credit)

Prerequisite: Biology. This course focuses on the natural processes at work on earth, human and ecosystem interactions, resource management and conservation, and environmental issues and ethics. Students will be given the opportunity to take action to make a difference locally.

Earth and Space Science (1 credit)

Earth and Space Science is an 11th or 12th grade science course that focuses on three major scientific concepts: The Earth in Space and Time, Solid Earth, and Fluid Earth. Topics included in this course include geology, oceanography, meteorology, cosmology, and astronomy.

Social Studies

World Geography (1 credit)

This two-semester course will study the relationships between people, places, and environments that result in patterns of geography on earth. The students will use geographic methods to compare and analyze land forms, climates, and natural resources, as well as cultural, political, economic, and religious characteristics of the world regions.

World History (1 credit)

This two-semester course will exam the history of mankind and the formations of the different civilizations and societies in order to understand geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities.

American History (1 credit)

This two-semester class is an in-depth examination of the development and growth of the United States since the Reconstruction.

American Government (1/2 credit)

This course is a comprehensive survey of the operation of federal, state, county and city governments. The course examines all aspects of government: statute making, diplomacy, labor policies, public finance, etc. Emphasis is placed on the work of the government in promoting the interests of the people and in addressing itself to current topics.

Economics (1/2 credit)

Students will study macroeconomic concepts such as prices, competition, and supply and demand as well as major economic systems used around the world such as free market, mixed and command economies. Heavy emphasis is placed on microeconomics and personal finance though the use of Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace for the Next Generation."

Other Electives

Outdoor Education (1 credit)

This is a practical class emphasizing team building, learning more about who you are as a person while developing more appreciation of others, acquiring new camping and emergency preparedness skills, investigating the wonders of the natural world, developing a deeper relationship with God, and enjoying recreational activities within the context of the outdoors. Four weekend camping trips are required as part of this course.

Introduction to Psychology for Leadership (0.5 credit)

This course introduces psychology as it pertains to leading groups and organizations, including a survey of topics and approaches in contemporary psychology. It includes the biological basis of behavior, sensation, perception, attention, learning and memory, thinking, language, personality, and individual differences.