

Parnassus Preparatory Academy

High School Course Catalog

WORLD LANGUAGE

First Form Latin/EGR II

Description: An introduction to Latin for students that takes a logical, systematic approach to grammar and syntax. Grammar and syntax are taught systematically in order to facilitate retention and understanding, and the extensive workbook exercises ensure skills mastery and rapid recognition. Students will need to devote 30-45 minutes per day for this class. The class grade is based upon participation, weekly quizzes, a midterm and final exam. The class is interactive and students will be called upon to recite in class. For information on the content covered see the First Form Latin table of contents [here](#).

English Grammar Recitation Workbook Two is tied specifically to the grammar taught in *First Form Latin* and covers 36 additional grammar rules, as well as expanding on capitalization and punctuation rules taught in *Book One*.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Prerequisites: None

Required Materials: [First Form Latin Student Text](#), [First Form Latin Student Book](#), [First Form Latin Ecclesiastical Pronunciation CD](#), [First Form Latin Teacher Key \(for Workbook, Quizzes, and Tests\)](#), [English Grammar Recitation: Workbook Two Student Book](#), [English Grammar Recitation](#)

Second Form Latin/EGR III

Description: Second Form Latin continues the journey of learning Latin grammar logically and systematically, in order to facilitate retention and understanding. The extensive workbook exercises ensure skills mastery and rapid recognition. Students will need to devote 30-45 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, weekly quizzes, and a midterm and final exam. The class is interactive and students will be called upon to recite in class. Once students have finished Second Form Latin, students will have crossed the halfway mark on their Latin journey! For information on the content covered see the Second Form Latin table of contents [here](#).

English Grammar Recitation III is tied specifically to the grammar taught in *Second Form Latin* and covers 37 additional grammar rules, as well as expanding on the capitalization and punctuation rules taught in *Books One and Two*.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to one high school credit in World Language.

Prerequisites: Completion of First Form Latin or the equivalent. Students from different Latin programs should see the First Form table of contents [here](#) for what is assumed prior to starting Second Form.

Required Materials: [Second Form Latin Student Text](#), [Second Form Latin Student Workbook](#), [Second Form Latin Pronunciation CD \(Ecclesiastical\)](#), [Second Form Latin Teacher Key](#), [English Grammar Recitation Workbook Three Student Book](#), [English Grammar Recitation](#)

Third Form Latin/EGR IV

Description: Third Form Latin continues the journey of Latin grammar started in First and Second Form, but is more focused on translation skills. Grammar and syntax are taught systematically in order to facilitate retention and understanding, and the extensive workbook exercises ensure mastery and rapid recognition. Students will need to devote 45 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, weekly quizzes, and a midterm and final exam. The class is interactive and students will be called upon to recite in class. For information on the content covered see the Third Form Latin table of contents [here](#).

Memoria Press' *English Grammar Recitation* is a manual of about 150 grammar questions, answers, and examples designed to be studied and memorized much like a catechism. Students memorize the terminology and definitions of analytical grammar, much as they memorize forms in Latin. *English Grammar Recitation* is perfect for the serious Latin student who needs an English grammar program that coordinates with his study of Latin over the five years of *Grammar School Latin* through the *Form* series.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to one high school credit in World Language.

Prerequisites: Completion of First and Second Form Latin or the equivalent. Students from different Latin programs should see the Second Form table of contents [here](#) for what is assumed prior to starting Third Form.

Required Materials: [Third Form Latin Student Text](#), [Third Form Latin Student Workbook](#), [Third Form Latin Pronunciation CD \(Ecclesiastical\)](#), [Third Form Latin Teacher Key](#), [English Grammar Recitation Workbook Four Student Book](#), [English Grammar Recitation](#)

Fourth Form Latin/EGR V

Description: Fourth Form Latin completes the journey of Latin grammar started in First Form. Fourth Form continues to employ the identical format of First Form Latin, with new grammar presented systematically in order to facilitate retention and understanding. The extensive workbook exercises ensure skills mastery and rapid recognition. There is a complete review of all grammar and vocabulary taught in the previous years, with new content. New content

includes relative and indefinite pronouns, deponent verbs, irregular verbs, participles, gerunds, gerundives. There is a heavy emphasis on practicing and honing translation skills, new syntax, and various Latin idioms. By the end of the class students will be prepared to read Latin authors in the original language. Students will need to devote 60 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, weekly quizzes, and a final exam. The class is interactive and students will be called upon to recite in class. For information on the content covered see the Fourth Form Latin table of contents [here](#).

English Grammar Recitation Workbook Five is tied specifically to the grammar taught in Fourth Form Latin and completes the program by covering the final 34 grammar rules. Book Five focuses on clauses, specifically the three types of subordinate clauses. A thorough review of the rules from Workbooks One-Four is also included.

Grade Level: 8 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to one high school credit in World Language.

Prerequisites: Completion of First, Second, and Third Form, or the equivalent.

Required Materials: [Fourth Form Latin Student Text](#), [Fourth Form Latin Workbook](#), [Fourth Form Latin Teacher Key](#), [English Grammar Recitation V Student Workbook](#), [English Grammar Recitation](#)

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

Description: Saxon Algebra I focuses on the essential principles of algebra. Topics include but are not limited to: linear equations, Cartesian coordinate system, introduction to polynomials and quadratics, rational expressions, factoring, introduction to systems of equations, radicals, basic set theory, introduction to function notation, surface area, right prisms and cylinders, pyramids and cones, ratios and proportion, scientific notation, introduction to statistics, Pythagorean theorem and triples, and transformations. The grade is based on homework, quizzes, tests and quarterly cumulative tests.

Grade Level: 8 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Algebra 1.

Prerequisites: Students must have successfully completed Saxon Math 8/7 (Pre-Algebra) or equivalent as determined by an administrator or instructor.

Required Materials: [*Algebra 1 Homeschool Kit with Solutions Manual 3rd Edition*](#) (Homeschool Packet and Test Forms may not be used by the student and must be turned into the course instructor prior to the first day of class.), [*Nicole the Math Lady Saxon Math Video Membership*](#) (Special group pricing)

Algebra II

Description: Saxon Algebra II offers a substantial review of all topics in Algebra I and then moves on to cover these topics at an advanced level. Major topics include the solving and graphing of linear and quadratic equations, factoring, a variety of types of word problems, solving quadratic equations by completing the square, solving simultaneous equations with fractions and decimals, complex roots of quadratic equations, solving systems of nonlinear equations, graphing and solving a system of inequalities, exponential equations, and review of key geometry, probability and statistics topics. The grade is based on homework, quizzes, tests and quarterly cumulative tests.

A Note about Geometry: John Saxon wanted to integrate geometry concepts throughout his math books instead of isolating them in individual chapters or books as other publishing companies were doing. Interwoven in all of John Saxon's math books is introductory, basic, and advanced geometry depending upon the level of the book. When students reach Saxon Algebra 2, they encounter concepts normally found in high school geometry textbooks. Students who complete the entirety of Saxon Algebra 2 have also completed the equivalent of the first semester of Formal or Analytic Geometry.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Algebra 2 and Geometry Semester One.

Prerequisites: Students must have successfully completed Saxon Algebra I or equivalent as determined by an administrator or instructor.

Required Materials: [Algebra 2 Homeschool Kit with Solutions Manual 3rd Edition](#) (Homeschool Testing Book and Answer Key may not be used by the student and must be turned into the course instructor prior to the first day of class.), [Nicole the Math Lady Saxon Math Video Membership](#) (Special group pricing)

Pre-Calculus

Full-year course. Saxon Pre-Calculus fully integrates topics from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and mathematical analysis. Word problems are developed throughout the problem sets and become progressively more elaborate. With this practice, high-school level students will be able to solve challenging problems such as rate problems and work problems involving abstract quantities. Conceptually oriented problems that help prepare students for college entrance exams (such as the ACT and SAT) are included in the problem sets.

A Note about Geometry: John Saxon wanted to integrate geometry concepts throughout his math books instead of isolating them in individual chapters or books as other publishing companies were doing. Interwoven in all of John Saxon's math books is introductory, basic, and advanced geometry depending upon the level of the book. When students reach Saxon Algebra 2, they encounter concepts normally found in high school geometry textbooks. Students who complete the entirety of Saxon Algebra 2 have also completed the equivalent of the first semester of Formal or Analytic Geometry. While finishing the first half of Advanced Mathematics, the student completes the equivalent of the second semester of formal or Analytic Geometry.

Grade Level: 10 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Pre-Calculus and Geometry Semester Two.

Prerequisite: Students must have successfully completed Saxon Algebra II or equivalent as determined by an administrator or instructor.

Required Materials: [Advanced Math Homeschool Kit with Solutions Manual 2nd Edition](#) (Homeschool Packet and Test Forms may not be used by the student and must be turned into the course instructor prior to the first day of class.), [Nicole the Math Lady Saxon Math Video Membership](#) (Special group pricing)

Calculus (not offered 2024-25)

Description: Calculus is designed for prospective math majors in college as well as students preparing for engineering, physics, business analysis, or the life sciences. Saxon Calculus covers all topics normally found in the Advanced Placement AB-level calculus program, as well as many topics from a BC-level program. Problem sets contain multiple-choice and conceptually

oriented problems similar to those in Advanced Placement exams. Also included are numerous applications to physics, chemistry, engineering, and business.

Grade Level: 11 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Calculus.

Prerequisite: Students must have successfully completed Advanced Math (Pre-Calc) or equivalent as determined by an administrator or instructor.

Required Materials: [Saxon Calculus Homeschool Kit with Solutions Manual 2nd Edition](#) (Homeschool Packet and Test Forms may not be used by the student and must be turned into the course instructor prior to the first day of class.), [Nicole the Math Lady Saxon Math Video Membership](#) (Special group pricing)

SCIENCE

Physical Science

Description: This is a rigorous introductory physical science class that employs a mastery-oriented approach designed for motivated students with strong reading skills. Students will explore the physical world and master the basic laws of physics and chemistry. Topics covered are matter and atoms, sources and conservation of energy, order and design, forces and fields, substances, theories and truth, measurements and units, properties and substances, force and motion, compounds and chemical reactions, waves, sound, and light, electricity, and magnetism and electromagnetism. This class will lay a strong foundation for future high school science courses. Students will be assessed through weekly quizzes and exercises, class participation, exams, and experiments.

High School Credit: Students interested in earning 1 high-school credit for this course should complete the 12 experiments assigned in *Physical Science*.

Grade Level: 8 - 10

Prerequisites: Mastery of 6th grade math, including decimals and fractions, is required for this course.

Required Materials: [*Physical Science*](#), [*Student Lab Report Handbook, Second Edition*](#)

Biology

Description: This class is an introduction to cell biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and ecology. The laboratory components of this class include at-home experiments that utilize common household objects, as well as in-class laboratories and dissections. This class uses 11 experiments, including 4 dissections (see required materials below). More information will be provided to the students.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Biology.

Prerequisites: None

Required Materials: [*Modern Biology*](#), [*Biology Coloring Workbook, Second Edition*](#), [*The Apprentice's Companion for General Biology*](#). The following dissection materials will also be required, but please do not purchase them until March: [Introductory Dissection Kit](#)

(Grasshopper, Earthworm, Frog), [Perch Specimen](#), and [Perch Dissection Guide](#). The only other lab materials required will be a flower and some M&Ms.

Chemistry

Description: A rigorous high school chemistry class intended to introduce students to the general concepts of chemistry and provide real-world application and mastery. The history of modern chemistry, mathematics, and technical communication is integrated throughout the class so that students will understand the relevance of chemistry to other subjects. The grade is based on attendance, participation, quizzes and tests, as well as virtual lab assignments and hands-on projects. This class is worth 1 high school credit in Science.

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra I. Students taking Algebra II simultaneously can also take this class.

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Science.

Required Materials: [Principles of Chemistry](#), [Solutions Manual for Principles of Chemistry](#), [The Student Lab Report Handbook, 2nd Edition](#)

Physics (not offered 2024-25)

Description: A rigorous high school physics class intended to introduce students to the general concepts of classical physics and the mathematical system we use to understand the world around us. The textbook is a 'physics first' approach intended for students who have already completed Algebra I. The topics covered in this class include motion, atomic theory, heat, waves, electricity and magnetism, and optics. This course is easily at an honors level, has clear measurable learning objectives, and will provide a solid foundation for more advanced physics courses. This is a difficult class and mastery of Algebra will be very helpful. Students should expect to spend 60 minutes a day on non-class days and 30 minutes per day on class days.

Labs: This class has 3 required labs. More information and a detailed list will be provided to the students.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in Physics.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I.

Required Materials: [*Introductory Principles in Physics, 2nd Edition*](#), [*Solutions Manual for Introductory Principles in Physics*](#), [*The Student Lab Report Handbook, 2nd Edition*](#)

CLASSICAL STUDIES/MODERN HISTORY

Classical Studies I

Description: This class starts with the beginnings of Egyptian civilization down through Ancient Persia, continues on with the Greeks in Crete, and ends in the Hellenistic Age ushered in by Alexander the Great. Students learn about ancient civilizations, the development of democracy, the primordial defense of democracy in the Persian wars, the heyday of Athens (also known as the Golden Age), and the sad self-destruction known as the Peloponnesian wars. The second half of the course entails a detailed reading and study of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. The average reader will need 1.5 hours a week to complete the first-semester reading. During the second semester the reading workload becomes more arduous, and the average reader will need 2-3 hours per week to read and answer the study guide questions. The grade is based upon participation, quizzes, mid-term exam, final exam, and an essay exam at the end of each semester.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in History, or 1/2 a credit in History and 1/2 in Literature.

Prerequisites: We highly recommend that your student reads *Famous Men of Greece* and *The Trojan War* prior to the start of the class if the student has no background in the ancient world.

Required Materials: [*The Book of the Ancient World*](#) (text and student guide) by Dorothy Mills; [*The Book of the Ancient Greeks*](#) (text and student guide), by Dorothy Mills; [*The Iliad*](#) & [*The Odyssey*](#) (texts and student guides – Note: Texts must be Butler's prose translation, available from Memoria Press). The Teacher Guides are optional.

Classical Studies II

Description: This class begins with the legendary founders of Rome, Romulus and Remus. There are three major components: the history of cultures during this time period, biographical studies of important individuals, and an exploration of key contributions to following societies, particularly Western culture. Students will discuss the rise and fall of a monarchy, the embrace of a republic with the simultaneous dislike for kings, and finally the ironic rise of the Roman Empire, all of which teach unforgettable principles about human nature and society. Thematically, we will explore topics such as the right to claim power and govern others, the role of religion in society, and the common elements of long-lasting cultures. Students will need to devote 60 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, reading quizzes, response essays, and exams that include essays.

Grade Level: 8 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in History, or 1/2 a credit in History and 1/2 in Literature.

Prerequisites: Students must read *The Aeneid for Boys and Girls* prior to the start of class. A basic knowledge of the ancient world in general and the Greeks in particular is helpful.

Required Materials: [*Book of the Ancient Romans*](#) (text and student guide) by Dorothy Mills, [*The Aeneid*](#) (text and student guide). The Teacher Guides are optional.

American History (not offered 2024-25)

Description: This course explores a comprehensive history of America as a land of hope founded on high principles. In presenting the great triumphs and achievements of our nation's past, as well as the shortcomings and failures, it offers a broad and unbiased study of the kind essential to the cultivation of intelligent patriotism. Students will explore the vast landscape and key events of American history, from American Settlement to the World Since the Cold War. Special attention will be paid to political, economic, and cultural trends, and their impact on the American experience. Students will learn to critically analyze history and formulate arguments through essay assignments, where they will learn to appreciate and express the "hows" and "whys" of history. The class will be a combination of lecture and discussion, and each week students are assigned work to complete outside of class. Assignments include an extensive reading of primary and secondary sources, essay assignments, and in-class assessments. Students will need to devote approximately 60 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, quizzes, and a significant historical essay due at the end of each term.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to one high school credit in US History.

Prerequisites: Students should be able to read a college-level textbook, be willing to work hard, and be able to write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

Required texts: [*A Land of Hope: An Invitation to the Great American Story*](#), [*A Student Workbook for Land of Hope*](#)

European History: Renaissance & Reformation Times (not offered 2024-25)

Description: Utilizing an informative Dorothy Mills text and Memoria Press' user-friendly study materials, this course offers a sweeping history of Europe from the end of the middle ages through the beginning of the 17th century. The text includes information on important people and events, numerous first-person accounts, maps, and coverage of societal, religious, and political turmoil. The class will be a combination of lecture and discussion, and each week students are assigned work to complete outside of class. Assignments include an extensive reading of primary and secondary sources, essay assignments, and in-class assessments. Students will need to devote approximately 45-60 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, quizzes, exams, and a significant historical essay.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to one high school credit in History.

Prerequisites: Students should be willing to work hard and able to write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

Required texts: [*Renaissance & Reformation Times*](#) by Dorothy Mills, the [*Renaissance & Reformation Times Student Guide*](#). Primary sources are a significant part of the course and are provided by the teacher.

American Government and Politics

Description: Young Americans on the verge of assuming all the responsibilities and rights of citizenship as adults must be more than merely familiar with the political body of which they are a part; they must hold a strong and deep understanding of its nature, its structure, its means, and, perhaps most importantly, its ends. No society, no government, no self-governing republic can long endure if even one generation should fail to possess such an understanding. Moreover, citizens cannot love their country, cannot preserve its goodness while correcting its failures, unless they know its history first. And knowledge of the United States for young Americans begins with a knowledge of its origins. In order to judge prudently in matters of public interest in the present day, students must learn about the philosophical principles upon which the American Founders created the United States of America, including the assertion of self-evident, objective truths about natural rights, morality, and self-government.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This class is worth a 1/2 a high school credit in Government, Civics, or as an Elective.

Prerequisites: This course assumes that the student has already completed a basic course of study in American history.

Required texts: [*American Government and Politics*](#) by Joseph Bessette and John Pitney. [*The 1776 Report*](#) by Larry Arn and Carol Swain. Other primary source documents provided by the instructor.

LITERATURE & POETRY

Literature III

Description: An essential component in the development of superior language skills is the study of good literature, which provides models of correct English and excellence in writing. In this course, readings will increase in difficulty from the previous course, and are works that model heroes, virtues, and high ideals. The poetry covered in this class, and poetry in general, is intense and requires careful, slow, repeated reading, and requires careful thought, and is especially effective in developing comprehension and thinking skills. The student will be trained by constant exposure to correct English usage and captivating narrative, and we have found that students learn best by imitation. This class is designed to do more than develop reading skills (though not less); it is designed to inspire students to love what is good and noble in life, and enhance his/her ability to evaluate literature. Students should devote approximately 45-60 minutes a day for this course. The grade is based on participation, periodic quizzes, periodic essay questions, and final tests over each work. The essays encourage a deeper consideration of the text and trains students to mark important elements of the story.

Grade Level: 8 - 10

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: Students should be strong readers, relatively proficient with the basics of English grammar, able to construct grammatically complete sentences, and able to edit any written work with the help of a parent (if needed).

Required Materials: [*Beowulf the Warrior*](#); [*Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*](#); [*The Hound of the Baskervilles*](#); [*A Midsummer Night's Dream*](#); [*The Book of the Middle Ages*](#); and [*Poetry, Prose, and Drama: Old English and Medieval Periods*](#). Texts and Student guides only. Teacher Guides are optional. Please only purchase these editions and selections to maintain continuity within the course.

Literature 10-12

Grade Level: 10 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: Students should be strong readers, relatively proficient with the basics of English grammar, able to construct grammatically complete sentences, and able to edit any written work with the help of a parent (if needed).

Required Materials: [*Jane Eyre*](#); [*Henry V*](#); [*Robinson Crusoe*](#); and [*The Canterbury Tales: The General Prologue & Three Tales, Second Edition*](#). Texts and Student guides only. Teacher Guides are optional. Please only purchase these editions and selections to maintain continuity within the course.

Literature IV (not offered 2024-25)

Description: In this course we've chosen some of the very best literature and poetry. These readings will increase in difficulty from the previous course, and are works that model heroes, virtues, and high ideals. The poetry covered in this class is intense and requires careful, slow, repeated reading, and it also requires careful thought. It is especially effective in developing comprehension and thinking skills. The student will be trained by constant exposure to correct English usage and captivating narrative, and we have found that students learn best by imitation. This class is designed to do more than develop reading skills (though not less); it is designed to inspire students to love what is good and noble in life, and enhance his/her ability to evaluate literature. Students should devote approximately 45-60 minutes a day for this course. The grade is based on participation, periodic quizzes, periodic essay questions, and final tests over each work. The essays encourage a deeper consideration of the text and trains students to mark important elements of the story.

Grade Level: 9 - 11

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: Students should be strong readers, relatively proficient with the basics of English grammar, able to construct grammatically complete sentences, and able to edit any written work with the help of a parent (if needed).

Required Materials: *Romeo & Juliet*, [*The Scarlet Letter*](#), [*To Kill a Mockingbird*](#), *Julius Caesar*, [*Poetry & Prose II: The Elizabethan to the Neoclassical Age*](#). Texts and Student guides only. Teacher Guides are optional. Please only purchase these editions and selections to maintain continuity within the course.

Literature V (not offered 2024-25)

Description: In this course we've chosen some of the very best literature and poetry. These readings will increase in difficulty from the previous course, and are works that model heroes, virtues, and high ideals. The poetry covered in this class, and poetry in general, is intense and requires careful, slow, repeated reading, and requires careful thought, and is especially effective in developing comprehension and thinking skills. The student's ears and eyes will be trained by constant exposure to good English usage and captivating narrative, and we've found that students learn best by imitation. This class is designed to do more than develop reading skills

(though not less); it is designed to inspire students to love what is good and noble in life, and enhance a student's ability to evaluate literature. Students should devote approximately 45-60 minutes a day for this course. The grade is based on participation, periodic quizzes, periodic essay questions, and final tests over each work. The essays encourage a deeper consideration of the text and trains students to mark important elements of the story.

Grade Level: 10 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: Students should be strong readers, relatively proficient with the basics of English grammar, able to construct grammatically complete sentences, and able to edit any written work with the help of a parent (if needed).

Required Materials: [*Pride & Prejudice*](#), [*The Great Gatsby*](#), *The Merchant of Venice*, *Macbeth*, *Poetry Book Three: The Romantic to the Victorian Age Set*. Texts and Student guides only. Teacher Guides are optional. Please only purchase these editions and selections to maintain continuity within the course.

Literature VI (not offered 2024-25)

Description: In this course we've chosen some of the very best literature and poetry. These readings will increase in difficulty from the previous course, and are works that model heroes, virtues, and high ideals. The poetry covered in this class is intense and requires careful, slow, repeated reading, and it also requires careful thought. It is especially effective in developing comprehension and thinking skills. The student will be trained by constant exposure to correct English usage and captivating narrative, and we have found that students learn best by imitation. This class is designed to do more than develop reading skills (though not less); it is designed to inspire students to love what is good and noble in life, and enhance his/her ability to evaluate literature. Students should devote approximately 45-60 minutes a day for this course. The grade is based on participation, periodic quizzes, periodic essay questions, and final tests over each work. The essays encourage a deeper consideration of the text and trains students to mark important elements of the story.

Grade Level: 11 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: Students should be strong readers, relatively proficient with the basics of English grammar, able to construct grammatically complete sentences, and able to edit any written work with the help of a parent (if needed).

Required Materials: [*A Tale of Two Cities*](#), *Anna Karenina*, *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, *Poetry Book Three: The Romantic to the Victorian Age Set*. Texts and Student guides only. Teacher Guides are optional. Please only purchase these editions and selections to maintain continuity within the course.

COMPOSITION

Writing & Rhetoric Year 5

Description: Think of the *progymnasmata* as a step-by-step apprenticeship in the art of writing and rhetoric. In Writing & Rhetoric Year 5, students build on the sturdy foundation they have developed through the *progym* exercises in the Writing & Rhetoric series. In this course, students continue honing the art of persuasive writing and speaking with *Book 9: Description & Impersonation* and *Book 10: Thesis Part 1*. In the first semester of Year 5, students encounter description, which emphasizes the use of vivid language to describe people, nature, and processes. They also study impersonation, which introduces the modes of persuasion as a means of imitating the writing style and outlook of four famous individuals: journalist Nellie Bly, writer Henry Williamson, athlete Jesse Owens, and statesman Winston Churchill. In the second semester, students begin a formal study of the thesis essay, which is the culmination of the *progymnasmata* as it deploys every skill that came before to make the strongest case for an idea. In preparation for the final thesis essay, the class enjoys two weeks of readings and Socratic dialog considering the question “What is Beauty?” Throughout this course, students will strengthen and refine their skills in reading and annotation, discussion, composition, and delivery. Specific areas of focus include the modes of persuasion (pathos, ethos, and logos) and the use of various rhetorical devices.

Grade Level: 8 - 11

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: This course is designed for students who have built a strong foundation in writing and are familiar with the *progymnasmata* (the “preliminary exercises” on which the Writing & Rhetoric series is based). Students who have successfully completed the previous books in the Writing & Rhetoric series will be ideally prepared for this course.

Incoming students should be familiar with elements of the persuasive essay (narrative, descriptive, and expository). Students should feel comfortable with discussing ideas and making connections to the text, outside reading, and life. Students will be expected to write on average one essay a week and refine the skill of annotation to become more discerning readers. Students should be comfortable typing their essays.

In addition to a strong command of grammar and syntax, students entering Writing & Rhetoric Year 5 should have an understanding of various rhetorical devices including contrary, synonym, hyperbole, metaphor, simile, periphrasis, anacolutha, and parallelism, with a mature vocabulary comprehension that is reflected in their writing style. Students writing at this level are comfortable with self-assessment and revising their own work according to rubrics and the like.

Required Materials: [Writing & Rhetoric Book 9: Description & Impersonation \(Student Edition\)](#),
[Writing & Rhetoric Book 10: Thesis Part 1 \(Student Edition\)](#)

Writing & Rhetoric Year 6

Description: Think of the *progymnasmata* as a step-by-step apprenticeship in the art of writing and rhetoric. In Writing & Rhetoric Year 6, students build on the sturdy foundation they have developed through the *progym* exercises in the Writing & Rhetoric series while also advancing students' skills in putting forth a proposition or thesis and guiding them in the creation of dynamic and powerful speeches. In this course, students continue honing the art of persuasive writing and speaking with *Book 11: Thesis Part 2* and *Book 12: Declamation*. In the first semester of Year 6, students will learn from masters of oratory, past and present, by studying the great speeches of Demosthenes, Plato, Thurgood Marshall, Ronald Reagan, John F. Kennedy, and Malala Yousafzai, among others. The 5 canons of rhetoric, the topics of invention, and the 3 branches of rhetoric also receive thoughtful consideration. Students will deliver 3 practice speeches (or declamations) of their own creation in the manner of the branches of rhetoric: deliberative, judicial, and epideictic. As students gain skill, they will learn to delight in discourse as a way "to enlighten the understanding, please the imagination, move the passion, and influence the will" (George Campbell). Declamations, which are essentially reinterpretations of an important or famous speech, are the training exercises in eloquence that marked the capstone of Roman rhetorical instruction. Book 12 reconstructs these ancient exercises and adapts them for use today, offering a systematic approach to rhetorical invention and enabling students to forge a clear pathway to eloquence. These declamation exercises will sharpen a variety of rhetorical skills and complete students' prior training in eloquence. Along the way, they will gain oratorical dexterity through practice exercises and use the skills and strategies learned in the previous books to further build their persuasive imagination.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is the equivalent of one high school credit in English.

Prerequisites: This course is designed for students who have built a strong foundation in writing and are familiar with the *progymnasmata* (the "preliminary exercises" on which the Writing & Rhetoric series is based). Students who have successfully completed the previous books in the Writing & Rhetoric series will be ideally prepared for this course.

Incoming students should be familiar with elements of the persuasive essay (narrative, descriptive, and expository). Students should feel comfortable with discussing ideas and making connections to the text, outside reading, and life. Students will be expected to write on average one essay a week and refine the skill of annotation to become more discerning readers. Students should be comfortable typing their essays.

In addition to a strong command of grammar and syntax, students entering Writing & Rhetoric Year 6 should have an understanding of various rhetorical devices including contrary, synonym, hyperbole, metaphor, simile, periphrasis, anacolutha, and parallelism, with a mature vocabulary comprehension that is reflected in their writing style. Students writing at this level are comfortable with self-assessment and revising their own work according to rubrics and the like.

Required Materials: [*Writing & Rhetoric Book 11: Thesis Part 2 \(Student Guide\)*](#), *Writing & Rhetoric Book 12: Declamation (Coming Soon)*

ELECTIVES

Music History & Appreciation

Description: One-semester course. Students will work through the major periods of western music history to gain an understanding of how music developed and how it both shaped and reflected the cultural changes of the time. This course will allow students to discuss music as it relates to major historical events; to see the innovation in each type of music; to know the historical value of major composers' contributions to culture; and to learn how to listen carefully to music and analyze it using vocabulary we have learned.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Required Materials: The instructor will provide all course materials.

Chorus

Description: One-semester course. In this entry-level choir, students will learn the basics of singing and reading music. This introductory course provides opportunities for students to analyze music and make informed judgments on the basis of form, content, technique, and creativity. Characteristics of music from various cultures and traditions are emphasized along with development of vocal music skills in order to perform a varied repertoire of music. Open to all grade levels, with NO AUDITION NECESSARY! Students will sing repertoire from various eras of musical history and from a variety of music styles: including gospel, musical theater, pop, and classical. While learning rehearsal and performance techniques, the students analyze compositional elements in cultural and historical contexts. May be repeated for credit with teacher consent.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Required Materials: The instructor will provide all course materials.

A Classical History of Art

Description: One-semester course. A *Classical History of Art* takes the student through more than 5,000 years of art history. From the prehistoric period to the beginning of modern art, this course demonstrates the significance of classical values in the sculpture, architecture, and painting of the West. The student will learn a proper regard for the greatness of classical art and master the dialogue necessary to direct interactions with the Beautiful. This course explores the

key works of each time period, with a particular focus on Greek sculpture, Gothic cathedrals, and the Renaissance.

Grade Level: 9 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Required Materials: The instructor will provide all course materials.

Digital Photography

Description: One-semester course. In this course, students learn the history of how photographs were made in the 1800s using metal and glass plates, plus the evolution of film, as we know it today. We will trace the profound effects photographs have had on American Life - influencing what we buy, how we dress, how we get the news - and in matters of life and death: medicine, science, and war. This course is designed to introduce opportunities in photography from traditional to digital. Students will learn how to take well-composed photographs using their own 35mm cameras. Emphasis will be placed on basic camera-handling skills, compositional guidelines, and proper utilization of light, film selection, and lens capabilities.

Students will use photo editing software, Adobe Photoshop. Student work will focus on: advanced photographic techniques (cameras, black-and-white or color; print or slide films, filters, electronic flash, and accessories); photographic images (people, action, photojournalism, nature; landscapes, seascapes, still life, using available light and multiple exposures); and the photographic process (contrast control, cropping, dodging, burning, texture screens, multiple printing). Students will describe the relationship between the artist, the process, the product, and the viewer.

Students will study various professional photographers throughout world history and make connections to their own use of the camera. Both a professional printed and digital portfolio will be developed throughout the school year.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Prerequisites: None

Required Materials: 35mm camera, Laptop with Adobe Photoshop

Drama/Theater

Description: One-semester course. This course is designed to allow students to analyze and interpret the environment and respond, using movement and voice. Observing informal and

formal theatrical film and electronic media productions, making critical judgments using the vocabulary and language of the theater are emphasized. Study of the history and traditions of the theater is used to develop appropriate criteria of dramatic literature and performance from several periods, cultures and theatrical movements. Development of knowledge and skill in acting through their own experience, imagination, and research, are stressed, as are the development of competencies in problem solving, communication skills, working with others, and time management.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Prerequisites: None

Required Materials: None

Introduction to Painting

Description: One-semester course. Throughout this course, students will explore art-making through the medium of paint. Our class time will include group demonstrations, individual instruction, work time, and class discussion. Students do not need any prior art experience. The class will start with the simple, foundational principles of shape and value. Course material will gradually build in complexity, ending with an emphasis on working from observation, creating dynamic compositions, and mixing colors. Students will practice thinking like artists—they will engage in the entire creative process, from generating ideas to making intentional decisions with each aspect of their work, and then reflecting on what they have made. Students will be encouraged to practice exercises taught in class and may need to work outside of class to complete projects. Along with hands-on studio work, students will participate in regular class critiques, creating a forum for the group to constructively collaborate and discuss creative outcomes. Individual artist statements will be required with most finished pieces of work, giving students another opportunity to articulate both their interpretive intent and their understanding of process and design concepts. Students can also expect ongoing dialogues about art in history.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This course is equivalent to ½ high school credit in Visual & Performing Arts.

Required Materials: Visit [DickBlick Art Supply](#) for complete shopping list. Please note: it is okay to purchase other brands/variations of these materials.

Traditional Logic I

Description: One-semester course. A course on how we form ideas, judgments, and arguments, and how we express them, with an emphasis on the structure of reasoning. Along with a basic outline of some key principles, the text presents the four kinds of logical statements, the four ways propositions can be opposite, the three ways in which they can be equivalent, and the seven rules for validity. Students will need to devote 25-30 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, weekly quizzes, and a final exam. Students are expected to participate in class for review and drill questions, and may be called upon to answer questions using their microphone.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This class is equivalent to 1/2 a high school credit in language arts, philosophy, or as an elective.

Prerequisites: None

Required Materials: [*Traditional Logic I Student Text, Student Workbook, and Teacher Key \(Workbook, Quizzes and Tests\)*](#) by Martin Cothran.

Traditional Logic II

Description: One-semester course. A continuation of how we form ideas, judgments, and arguments, and how we express them, with an emphasis on the structure of reasoning for students wanting to expand their knowledge of formal logic beyond basic argument forms to include advanced, complex arguments. This class will cover the four figures of the traditional syllogism, the three forms of rhetorical arguments (called enthymemes), the three kinds of hypothetical syllogisms, the four kinds of complex syllogisms, as well as relational arguments. The class also includes a wealth of argument examples. Students will need to devote 45 minutes per day for this class. The grade is based on participation, weekly quizzes, and a final exam. Students are required to be actively involved in class.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This class is worth 1/2 a high school credit in language arts, philosophy, or as an elective.

Prerequisites: [*Traditional Logic I*](#) or equivalent.

Required Materials: [*Traditional Logic II Student Text, Student Workbook, and Teacher Key \(Workbook, Quizzes and Tests\)*](#) by Martin Cothran.

Geography III

Description: This course solidifies mapping skills (preferably learned in Geography I and II from Memoria Press), and also requires students to label major landforms and topography. Students will study the climate, recent history, culture, and religion of every continent. Famous landmarks, architecture, and people from around the world will be presented to the students and at home work requires students to practice mapwork weekly. In addition to labeling maps, students will learn to freehand-draw each continent using the Robinson Map Project. This is a thorough world geography course that is perfect for middle school students before their advanced European and American history courses in high school.

Grade Level: 7 - 9

Prerequisites: Students should have completed Geography I and II from Memoria Press or another mapping program.

Required Materials: [*Geography III Text, Student Workbook, Teacher Guide, and Flashcards*](#)

Life Skills for the Young Adult

Description: One-semester course. Life Skills for the Young Adult will serve as an introduction to the knowledge every young adult will need to successfully navigate the world. The foundation of the course is a focus on sound personal finance practices, combined with the ability to intentionally set personal and financial goals, and how to evaluate and achieve those goals on a daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly basis.

The personal finance portion of the course will work on the basics of money management, including budgeting, setting reasonable spending targets, purchasing within one's means, and saving for emergencies, unexpected life circumstances, major purchases, and retirement. Students will examine many forms of credit, including credit cards, personal loans, car loans, student loans, and mortgages (including the miracle of compounding interest); insurance, including car, renters, homeowners, and health; and taxes, including how to properly prepare and document for taxes, saving for taxes and the incentives built into the tax code.

The goal planning portion of the course will use the basics of task management to help students answer the questions "what would you like to achieve," "why do you want to achieve it," and "how will you set targets in order to achieve these goals." Students will work with a goal planning journal in order to learn how to evaluate their plans. This part of the course will also include long-term planning vis-à-vis the tradeoffs and costs of professional work, trade work, college, graduate school, and professional school, and life plans (home, family, etc.)

Finally, a number of life skills will be introduced to the students in class such as how to purchase a car (new and used), how to register to vote, how to navigate government services, how to do basic home fixes, how to maintain your car, and, most importantly, how to do laundry.

Grade Level: 7 - 12

High School Credit: This class is worth 1/2 a high school credit in Personal Finance or as an elective.

Required Materials: *How to Adult: Personal Finance for the Real World*, Jack Cousineau, *It's Not Common Cents*, Aaminah Amin, *Atomic Habits*, James Clear, *So Good They Can't Ignore You*, Cal Newport