



CORAL SPRINGS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

*Renewing Minds • Engaging Hearts • Transforming Culture*

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# CORAL SPRINGS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

## MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

2017/2018

**Coral Springs Christian Academy ministers to students  
in a Christ-centered learning community  
which instills the vision and practice of excellence in academics,  
character, and service for God's glory.**



*Students and parents are encouraged to discuss course selections with our Guidance Counselor.*

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

**All courses are subject to availability and sufficient enrollment.**



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## **GPA WEIGHT and QUALITY POINTS TABLE**

<i>Grade</i>	<i>% Range</i>	<i>Standard</i>	<i>Honors</i>
A	89.50 - 100	4.0	5.0
B	79.50 - 89.49	3.0	4.0
C	69.50 - 79.49	2.0	3.0
D	59.50 - 69.49	1.0	1.0
F	0 - 59.49	0	0
I (Incomplete)	0	0	0

Honors weighting applies to 8<sup>th</sup> grade core classes taken for High School credit.

\* Algebra I

\* Earth/Space Science

\* Modern US History

\* Spanish 1

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM**

<b>GRADE</b>	<b>ADVANCED CURRICULUM</b>	<b>STANDARD CURRICULUM</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE, BIBLE, SOCIAL STUDIES
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE, BIBLE, SOCIAL STUDIES,
<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, SPANISH 1	MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE, BIBLE, SOCIAL STUDIES

## **Middle School Honor Roll**

The Coral Springs Christian Academy Honor Roll system is used as an incentive for students to do their academic best in each grading period.

- **Headmaster Honor Roll**

To achieve this recognition, a student must earn at least a 4.0 overall GPA in all subjects and receive no grade lower than an “A-“ on his/her report card. In addition, the student must meet or exceed all conduct expectations.

- **Principal’s Honor Roll**

To achieve this recognition, a student must earn at least a 3.65 overall GPA in all subjects and receive no grade lower than a “B-“ on his/her report card. In addition, the student must meet or exceed all conduct expectations.

The quarterly GPA is determined by dividing the total quality points earned by the number of courses taken.

# **Course Descriptions**

## **Bible**

### **Bible 6**

This course is designed to allow students to draw connections between the Old and New Testaments through the study of Jesus' ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension. A unit on evangelism focuses on the methods Peter and Paul used to share the Gospel with others. Colossians, New Testament letters and Revelation are included. Each unit is designed to increase student knowledge of the Bible as well as challenge students on how they can personally apply this material to their life.

### **Bible 7**

The course takes a thematic approach that concentrates on Old Testament themes, the feasts of Israel, a study of Job, Ecclesiastes, and Proverbs, a unit on prayer, and on the intertestamental times. Each unit is designed to increase student knowledge of the Bible as well as challenge students on how they can personally apply this material to their life.

### **Bible 8**

This course takes a thematic approach with a concentration on the New Testament. Materials explore the history of the church, beginning with the birth and ministry of Jesus through Revelation, and continuing to the present. Topics include the spread of Christianity, Christian worldview, false religion, and personal devotions. Each unit is designed to increase the student's knowledge of the Bible and its outworking in church history, as well as to challenge students on how they can personally apply this material to their life.

# English

## **English 6**

This course introduces the fundamental concepts of reading to prepare students for next year's heavier emphasis on critical reading. Students will learn the components of plot and be able to identify basic literary devices in a variety of fiction selections, including classic poetry, short stories, and novels. Students are also introduced to core writing skills, from paragraph and thesis development to the construction of an SAT-preparatory Keyhole Essay. Instruction in English grammar and vocabulary skills are vital components of the weekly lesson plan.

## **English 6 Advanced**

This enhanced course involves a holistic, integrated approach by incorporating other academic disciplines into the curriculum. Assessments and assignments will include additional required writing and a heavier concentration on grammar and style. Independent reading will also be required. *Prerequisite: "A" in fifth grade English, standardized test scores, and department recommendation.*

## **English 7**

This course includes an intensified reading program which moves beyond identification of literary components into the fundamentals of critical analysis and interpretation. Students will read and analyze selected classic poetry, short stories, and novels. SAT-preparatory critical reading instruction will be integrated into the reading unit. Special attention will be given to teaching students how to express their critical interpretations in both oral discussion and literary response essays. Instruction in English grammar and vocabulary skills are vital components of the weekly lesson plan.

## **English 7 Advanced**

This enhanced course involves a holistic, integrated approach by incorporating other academic disciplines into the curriculum. Assessments and assignments will include additional required writing and a heavier concentration on grammar and style. Independent reading will also be required. *Prerequisite: "A" in sixth grade English, "A" or "B" in sixth grade English Honors, standardized test scores, and department recommendation.*

## **English 8**

This course is designed to prepare students for the upcoming rigors of the high school English curriculum. More advanced literary works are selected, to give students the opportunity to improve their interpretive and critical thinking skills. In addition to the continued focus on SAT preparatory critical reading and composition, the course will provide instruction in research and oral presentation, developing students' communication skills and preparing them to locate and synthesize source material to support analytical or argumentative assertions. Continued instruction in English grammar and vocabulary skills are vital components of the weekly lesson plan.

## **English 8 Advanced**

This enhanced course involves a holistic, integrated approach by incorporating other academic disciplines into the curriculum. Assessments and assignments will include additional required writing and a heavier concentration on grammar and style. Independent reading will also be required.

*Prerequisite: "A" in seventh grade English, "A" or "B" in seventh grade English Honors, standardized test scores, and department recommendation*

# Mathematics

## **Math 6**

The sixth grade math program serves to prepare students for upper level math classes. The program follows the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards and cover basics in numerical expressions and factors, Geometry, algebraic expressions, ratios and proportion, statistics and the number system. The students are motivated to apply concepts for understanding in the content area. The course helps open doors to abstract thought, reasoning, and inquiry into math topics.

## **Math 6 Advanced**

The sixth grade advanced math program serves to prepare students for Pre-Algebra. The program follows the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards and cover basics in numerical expressions and factors, Geometry, algebraic expressions, ratios and proportion, statistics and the number system. The students are motivated to apply concepts for understanding in the content area. The course helps open doors to abstract thought, reasoning, and inquiry into math topics. The advanced 6<sup>th</sup> grade covers further topics that include integers; rational numbers; expressions and equations; ratios and proportions; and percent.

*Prerequisite: "A" in fifth grade math, standardized test scores and department recommendation.  
To remain in advanced classes, students must maintain a B+ or higher.*

## **Math 7**

The seventh grade math program servers to get students prepared for the high school level math classes. The program follows the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics standards and cover basics in expressions and equations, Geometry, ratios and proportion, statistics and probability and the number system. The course helps open doors to abstract thought, reasoning, and inquiry into math topics. The students are motivated to internalize concepts for a greater depth of understanding in the content area.

## **Pre-Algebra 7 Advanced**

This advanced course will give students a strong foundation in algebra while also preparing them for future study of Geometry, probability, and data analysis. The class will include developing logical reasoning and problem solving skills for real-world problems. Topics include: integers, equations and inequalities, rational numbers and proportions, functions, Geometry and measurement, data analysis, polynomials and transformations. Students who successfully complete this course will be equipped to succeed in Algebra 1 in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

*Prerequisite: "B+" in sixth grade math, standardized test scores and department recommendation  
To remain in advanced classes, students must maintain a B+ or higher.*

## **Pre-Algebra 8**

This course will give students a strong foundation in algebra while also preparing them for future study of Geometry, probability, and data analysis. It will include developing logical reasoning and problem solving skills for real-world problems. Topics include: integers, equations and inequalities, rational numbers, proportions, functions, Geometry, measurement, data analysis, and polynomials. Students who successfully complete this course will be equipped to proceed to Algebra 1 in high school.

### **Algebra 1 Honors 8**

The purpose of this course is to develop the algebraic concepts and processes that can be used to solve a variety of real-world and mathematical problems. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to enter high school at the honors level. Topics include: order of operations, operations with signed numbers, formulas and inequalities, rational expressions, factoring, powers, percent, polynomials, probabilities, and odds. An introduction to statistics, slopes, linear equations, graphing, and word problems will also take place in this course. **High school credit will be given to students who earn a 70% or higher in Algebra I Honors.** Students must earn a B+ or higher in Algebra I Honors 8 to be eligible for Geometry Honors in high school.

*Prerequisite: "A" in seventh grade Pre-Algebra, standardized test scores and department recommendation. To remain in advanced classes, students must maintain a B+ or higher.*

# **Physical Education and Health**

## **Physical Education 6**

The purpose of this course is to expose the student to various movement experiences and activities, including an introduction to team sports, where they will be challenged at all ability levels. There will be an emphasis on skill development through lead-up games with a focus on cooperation within a team setting. The student will learn to evaluate their physical fitness and begin to take responsibility for their own fitness development as well as their general health. The CSCA Middle school curriculum is based on the assumptions that: (1) skill development is on-going and progressive, (2) lifetime activity attitudes are developed through positive participation at this age, and (3) students need to incorporate principles of fitness into their daily lives. Moreover, the student will gain an appreciation for his body as a gift from God and the joy that movement brings.

## **Physical Education 7**

The purpose of this course is to build on the movement experiences from sixth grade where the student will further develop sports skills through the use of lead-up games and drills. The student will continue to improve their level of personal fitness and be introduced to new training methods to accomplish various sport outcomes. Students will also understand how the body responds physiologically to exercise and activity.

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## **Physical Education 8**

The purpose of this course is to develop mature movement patterns and further refine the sport skills established in sixth and seventh grade. Students will participate in sports to a fuller capacity where they will apply game and team strategies. Personal fitness will be emphasized along with an introduction to health and personal development.

The CSCA Middle school curriculum is based on the assumptions that: (1) skill development is on-going and progressive, (2) lifetime activity attitudes are developed through positive participation at this age, and (3) students need to incorporate principles of fitness into their daily lives. Moreover, the student will gain an appreciation for his body as a gift from God and the joy that movement brings.

# Sciences

## **Life Science 6**

Students are introduced to the basic principles of the scientific method and learn basic tools of inquiry, including measurement, graphing, classification, and modeling. Students learn to identify important cellular structures and characteristics, which are the basis of all life forms. They explore cell organelles and their roles in the function of cells. Genetic crosses and Punnett squares enhance student's study of DNA and its role in heredity. Students also survey more complex organisms such as viruses, microorganisms, fungi, plants, and animals. They learn to classify organisms based on modes of energy production, anatomy, and physiology. Throughout the course, students learn about scientists and classic experiments in order to understand the history of scientific discovery and how it is pursued.

## **Physical Science 7**

Through review and extension of the basic principles of the scientific method and inquiry, students examine some of the building blocks of the universe: atoms, elements, and compounds. Students study the development of the periodic table and construct models to reinforce important principles. They are introduced to the basics of chemistry, including bonding, chemical reactions, and principles of electricity and magnetism. Students will explore the basic principles of physics, including motion, forces, and energy. Continued study of scientists and classic experiments deepen understanding of the pursuit of science discovery.

## **Earth/Space Science 8**

Earth Science is designed to give students an understanding of the Earth, its origin, motions, external and internal forces, and its relationship to other bodies in the solar system and universe. Laboratory activities play a major role in such topics as earthquakes, volcanoes and conservation. Topics of emphasis include rocks and minerals, continental drift, erosion, oceanography, and Earth's atmosphere. A special unit of study will be in the area of creation apologetics, where students will examine common arguments of origins based on earth science topics such as big bang, age of the earth, fossils, formation of planets, stars, and galaxies.

## **Earth/Space Science 8 Honors**

Earth Science is designed to give students an understanding of the Earth, its origin, motions, external and internal forces, and its relationship to other bodies in the solar system and universe. Laboratory activities play a major role in such topics as earthquakes, volcanoes, and conservation. Topics of emphasis include rocks and minerals, continental drift, erosion, oceanography, and Earth's atmosphere. A special unit of study will be in the area of creation apologetics, where students will examine common arguments of origins based on earth science topics such as big bang, age of the earth, fossils, formation of planets, stars, and galaxies. The honors course will use a high school text and will require additional research work outside of class. **High school credit will be given to students who earn a 70% or higher in this course.** To continue to high school Honors Biology, student must earn a B+ or higher in Earth/Space Science Honors. *Prerequisite: "A" in seventh grade math and science, teacher recommendation.*

# **Social Studies**

## **World History 6**

This course focuses on the history and culture of ancient civilizations from the beginning to the Renaissance. Students start by studying the ancient civilizations of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Phoenicians, Hebrews, and other Eastern civilizations. The main features of each of these civilizations will be analyzed and the different religions that emerged will be compared and contrasted. The next civilizations studied will be Greece and Rome. We will investigate how those ancient governments influenced the Founding Fathers when they established the U.S. government. The Byzantine Empire as well as the rise of Islam will be covered and our year will end with the Feudal Societies, the Renaissance Era and the Reformation. Students will learn how to read and analyze primary sources, create in-class masterpieces, and perform oral presentations. At the end of the year each student will have gained a clear perspective of World History and have a strong foundation for seventh grade Geography and American History.

## **Geography and American History 7**

This course devotes the first semester to the study of world geography. Students will learn about the culture, history, and physical features of several geographic areas such as Europe, China, Africa, the Middle East, and India. There will be map work involved and students will see how these countries interact in the increasingly globalized world in which we live. Second semester will cover American History from the beginning to The Civil War. Students will study the formation of the US government system and the different issues that arose with the birth of a new nation. The year will end with The Civil War and all the events that led up to this conflict. Students will be fully prepared by the end of the year to continue the study of U.S. history in eighth grade.

## **American History 8**

This course picks up where students left off in seventh grade by reviewing the Civil War and Reconstruction time period and working up to current times. Important events and time periods will be discussed like the Industrial Age, Progressive Movement, World War I and World War II, the Great Depression, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War, and September 11<sup>th</sup>. Students will see how these eras and events have played a role in the development of our country.

## **Modern US History Honors 8**

The honors level of the American History course begins where students left off in seventh grade by reviewing the Civil War and Reconstruction time period and working up to current times. Important events and time periods like the Industrial Age, Progressive Movement, World War I and World War II, the Great Depression, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War, and September 11<sup>th</sup> will be discussed. Students will see how these eras and events have played a role in the development of our country. Additional reading and research are required.

*Prerequisite: "A" or "B" in seventh grade social studies, standardized test scores and department recommendation*

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

## **Computer Technology Wheel**

This nine week course is offered to introduce, refresh and enhance basic computer skills. Students will learn computer skills to successfully function in a technological society. Units of study include keyboarding, basic computer hardware, word processing, spreadsheets, desktop publishing, multimedia presentations, and internet research skills. This course will be graded on a pass/fail scale.

## **Exploratory Art Wheel**

In this nine week course students will investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both a historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating works in many different mediums. Opportunities are provided for creative decision-making in the context of the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

## **Spanish 6 Wheel**

This nine week course is an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students will learn the basic communication skills of the Spanish language. This course will be graded on a pass/fail scale.

## **Study Skills Wheel**

This nine week course focuses on techniques and learning strategies to improve students' study skills. Students learn how to set goals, develop strategies to achieve them, and monitor progress throughout the quarter. Areas of study include taking organized notes, time management, test-taking strategies, active listening, and methods of conducting research.

## **Chorus 6**

In this semester course, students with little or no choral experience will develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## **Drama 6**

In this semester course, students will learn the basics of building a character through such activities as pantomime, improvisation, and effective speaking using articulation, projection, and breathing. Students also learn the importance of technical theatre and explore the use of such elements as costumes, props, and scenery. Students practice writing for the theatre and explore various theatre roles and functions. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## **Marine Biology**

This semester course is an introduction to marine biology, including near shore, benthic & open ocean ecosystems, and the organisms that exist in them. We will cover marine organism identification and the myriad of design features that aid and equip these organisms for survival. Aquarium construction projects, field trips, lectures, lab activities, and homework assignments will make up the bulk of this course.

# 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

## Art

In this semester long course, students will explore media and techniques used to create a variety of art through developing skills in many different mediums. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

## Chorus

In this semester course, students will build choral experience, expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality choral literature. Singers focus on increasing knowledge of music theory, music literacy, and aesthetic response. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## Creative Writing (H.S. Credit - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only)

Creative Writing is a semester-long elective that eighth-grade students may take for high school credit. This course will endeavor to inspire in students an appreciation of the aesthetic and intrinsic value of creative expression as they continue to hone their skills in multiple genres of creative writing and develop their God-given writing voices. At the end of the course, students will display a refined, published portfolio of original creative pieces. **High school credit will be given to students who earn 70% or higher in this class.**

## Drama

In this semester course, students will study acting, design, and dramatic literature to increase the enjoyment and understanding of what is required to prepare plays for the public. Students explore theatre history, study the great American playwrights, examine the cultural and historical contributions to theatre, and begin to use the information to inform and improve their theatre knowledge and skills. Students begin to use the basic elements of theatre design through practical application and projects. Students are required to attend performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

## Introduction to Engineering

This semester course is a “hands-on” science class with an emphasis on weekly experimentation focused on helping students develop new ways of looking at the world through the collection and interpretation of data, making predictions, and posing hypotheses. Experiments will explore various areas within the world of engineering including electrical, chemical, and civil engineering.

## Introduction to Technology (H.S. Credit)

This introductory course is designed to introduce students to the world of computer technology. Curriculum is intended to cover the basics of computing technology, computer hardware and computer software. Students will go through a variety of real-world applications of how technology impacts our daily lives, and appropriate use of technology. Students will acquire basic, necessary technology skills to help prepare for college and career. Applications that will be covered are Internet Explorer, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft PowerPoint. **High school credit will be given to students who earn 70% or higher in this class.**

### **Spanish 7**

This Spanish introductory semester course is designed to develop the four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing through use of drills, dialogues, listening activities, games, video, computer software and projects. Oral proficiency is stressed from the start through use of the SymTalk method which uses symbols to acquire vocabulary and to serve as a springboard for original sentence construction. Students gain confidence as they quickly learn to form full sentences. Their skills are developed as they expand their vocabulary. Culture is presented on a continual basis and includes crafts, art, music, dance, and cuisine and virtual fieldtrips.

### **Spanish I Honors (H.S. Credit - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only)**

This year long course introduces students to the fundamentals of listening and speaking, vocabulary and grammar; and is designed for communication in the community or workplace. Classroom instruction is designed to develop communicative competence and cultural sensitivity. Students will be equipped with a foundation of vocabulary and grammar that will enable them to begin communicating and sharing their faith in Spanish. Interactive texts, games, manipulative, and “real life” Spanish language tools like newspapers, radio, television, online video clips, Spanish Bible verses and literature will be used to further develop the student’s understanding of Spanish. Students will continue to expand their proficiency in Spanish II or II Honors. **High school credit will be given to students who earn 70% or higher in this class.**

*Prerequisite: “A” or “B” in seventh grade English.*

**All Middle School electives are graded Pass/Fail except those offered for High School credit.**

**All courses are subject to availability and sufficient enrollment.**