

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE CLASS OVERVIEW

As enrollment interest allows, we will continue adding grades through the eighth grade. We anticipate that until enrollment numbers grow this will remain a combination class. Our plan is to employ two teachers and split the subjects between them so that students will rotate between the two teachers for their classes. The curriculum described below is what we have determined at this point we will most likely select based on our current reviews. We will invest in what we consider to be the best, most effective curriculum available that is consistent with our philosophy of education that is also either biblically-based or does not conflict with our biblical values.

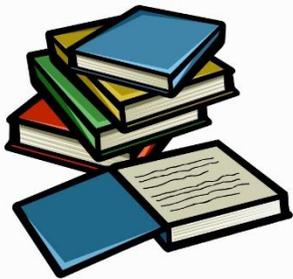
Bible:

Summit Ministries incorporates several middle school curricula. *Walking in Truth* is designed to help middle school students understand and live out the biblical worldview in today's post-Christian culture. It uses a fun textbook and a thought-provoking workbook to walk younger students through life's big questions. Students unpack and discuss worldview topics, such as popular culture, atheism, pantheism, apologetics, revelation, truth, materialism, miracles, science, family, homosexuality, and the resurrection. It is uniquely designed to increase student's cultural engagement and critical thinking skills with Socratic questioning, real-world applications, and a comparative worldview approach. *Lightbearers* is a video-based Bible curriculum for middle school designed to help middle school students clearly understand the tenets of the Christian worldview and incorporates a number of challenging and engaging videos as well as books and other printed materials. This middle school Bible curriculum equips students to understand how Christianity compares to the leading non-Christian worldviews of our day. Students will learn how to apply their Christian faith to every area of life. Categories include theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, sociology, psychology, law, politics, economics, and history.



Literature:

The Modos Press Literature series through ACSI (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) presents world-class literature, both classic and contemporary works, that are broad in their scope, intellectually challenging, and morally focused. The program is rigorous and engaging, and it thoughtfully explores family values and ethics. Seventh-grade literature spans several centuries and is drawn from regions across the globe. It contains 4 short stories, 39 poetry selections, 9 nonfiction essays, 2 drama selections, a complete novel, index of authors and titles, a vocabulary glossary, and brief author biographies in over 600 of its pages. The eighth-grade text contains highly literate curriculum and excellent artwork, introductory word banks, fascinating tidbits of information and vocabulary definitions imbedded within its pages. In its over 700 pages, it contains 26 short stories, a Novella, 23 poetry selections, a drama selection, 9 nonfiction essays, a complete novel, index of authors and titles, a vocabulary glossary, and brief author biographies. Student materials include a hardbound text and consumable student notebook.



Grammar & Writing:

Bob Jones University Press Secondary Writing & Grammar series builds on the foundation formed in elementary grades by applying those skills to higher-level writing. New grammar skills are added and ample writing opportunities are provided so that students can apply new skills to real-life writing such as letters, essays, reports, speeches, and digital content. Seventh-grade presents clear instruction in writing and grammar, including an overview of the Writing Process and many focused writing activities. It teaches all eight parts of speech, the five basic sentence patterns, usage concepts such as agreement, and mechanics. Adjective clauses and complex sentences are also introduced. Writing projects include a biographical sketch, an in-class essay, a letter to the editor, and a book report. Eighth-grade presents clear instruction in writing and grammar, including an overview of the writing process and many focused writing activities. It specifically reviews the eight parts of speech, five basic sentence patterns, usage, and mechanics, and discusses grammar elements such as participles, gerunds, and infinitives. Writing projects include a news report, a character profile, a short fable, and an in-class essay.



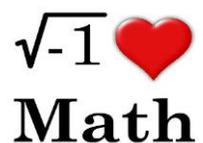
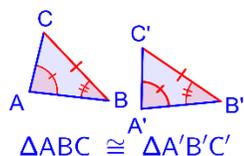
Spelling & Vocabulary:

Bob Jones University Press *Vocabulary: Level A* (3rd ed.) introduces seventh graders to etymology as a means of determining the meanings of words. Students study Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes to learn recognition of word families. Students also study synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms as well as positive and negative context clues to determine word meaning. Spelling is incorporated into this material. *Vocabulary: Level B* continues to build vocabulary and focuses on the study of Latin word parts presenting new words in word families that share a prefix, root, or suffix. The worktext provides many reinforcement exercises to help students retain vocabulary words. Spelling is also incorporated into this material.



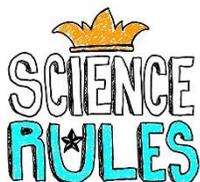
Math:

Big Ideas Math Course 2 and Course 3 will most likely be used in our seventh and eighth-grade class and aligns with the State of California's Common Core Standards. Our examination of it to this point gives us confidence that it should transition nicely from our elementary math program to common core math students may experience at the high school level, and will build on the good solid math foundation they received from ACSI math at the elementary levels. It exposes students to highly motivating and relevant problems. The books are colorful, engaging, and include explanations of concepts, problems to solve, hands-on activities to assist in the understanding of the concepts taught as well as numerous critical thinking and real-life problem-solving exercises to build application of the math principals. Course 2 (7th grade) units extend what was taught in previous grades and include ratios and proportion, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry, and statistics and probability. Course 3 (8th grade) units of study include the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability.



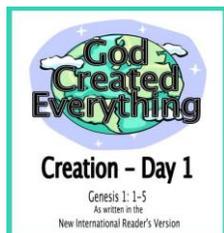
Science:

ACSI's (Association of Christian Schools Int'l) science program reflects the requirements set forth by the National Science Education Standards, as well as portions of the Next Generation Science Standards where they best fit. It allows students to experience science from a biblical worldview through engaging, inquiry-based instruction that develops critical thinking skills. Lessons offer many hands-on activities engaging students in discovery, exploration, and investigation of God's purposefully designed



world. Opportunity is provided for students to participate in research, as well as debate and discussion of prevailing scientific thought in light of Scripture. Full-color and engaging student books as well as lab activities provide a well-rounded and rich experience exploring and applying the scientific method. Science curriculum for Jr. High includes in depth studies of Life Science for seventh-grade and Earth Science for eighth-grade. Both include appropriate hands-on lab activities that challenge students with the application of the scientific method and help shape their biblical worldview. Student materials include a textbook and lab manual.

Social Studies:



Bob Jones University Press *World Studies* is taught in seventh-grade, and provides a fresh look at the civilizations of the world through the lens of a Christian worldview. This edition begins with a brief review of history from Creation to the coming of Christ and progresses in a chronological journey around the world studying the ebb and flow of empires, cultures, Christianity, and world religions, concluding with an examination of the trends of the emerging 21st century. For eighth graders, the *American Republic* unfolds the history of the

United States through richly detailed narrative and a colorful, engaging presentation. Starting with the discovery of the New World, the text traces the path of American history up to the present day. In addition to a historical account, *American Republic* demonstrates the distinctiveness of American values and government, and emphasizes the importance of understanding and appreciating United States history.

