



2025-2026

Course

Catalog

Our Mission

To sojourn with parents in the building of future generations with a Biblical, classical education which results in passionate seekers of wisdom and knowledge, through Christ, who seek to bring honor and glory to God.

Our Vision

To provide Austin with an advanced-academic-format school that integrates the use of Charlotte Mason inspired classical curriculum and approach to learning which involves the parent as an active teaching partner. Sterling Classical School's vision is to utilize the vehicle of an advanced-academic-format schedule to promote scholastic excellence, foundational character development, strategic parental support and the gift of time for families to grow closer to God and each other.

Classical/Charlotte Mason Tapestry

The curriculum offered at Sterling Classical School takes a student on an amazing journey where exploration and hands-on experiences create an insatiable appetite to learn and grow. While the classical rotation of academia starts in First Grade, Kindergarten students delve into the essence of Charlotte Mason with thematic units in history and science that take them directly into the incredible world God created through experiments, projects, artistic renderings and field trips. The course selections offered highlight the depth of a classical education which goes beyond classical literature and into the classical or ancient ways of educating a child based on a three-part process of subject matter, introduction and mastery. The unique ability to weave in the philosophy of Charlotte Mason, who promotes "doing is learning," produces a beautiful tapestry of education where a life-long learner is created.

Grammar School

Kindergarten

History

In this course, history and science topics are covered through thematic units. Each theme is introduced through rich “living books” and explored interactively using the Charlotte Mason philosophy. Topics covered include insects, apples, space, animals, ocean, weather, Texas, magnets, pilgrims, Native Americans, Thanksgiving, and many more. Sterling exceeds the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) for kindergarten history and science.

Language Arts

Kinder language arts will focus on learning the English phonograms and their sound and phonemic awareness. Students will learn to identify and write dictated phonograms, and then use the sounds to build and decode words. Students will be exposed to a varied repertoire of classical literature through read-alouds. Kinder students will write each week in their draft books and move from emergent writing to writing stories with pictures, labels and then sentences. They will learn about different types of stories and read literature in different genres.

K-4 Latin (Required)

At Sterling, every student is required to take Latin in K-4th grade. Students will recite specific Latin greetings and follow a selection of Latin commands; recite Latin numbers 1-20; recite Latin numbers (by tens) from 1-100; recite the Latin names for classroom items; recognize and recite the Latin accusative form for 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form of 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form for selected body parts; read and discuss Latin picture book stories; sing songs in Latin; recite 1st conjugation verb paradigm and personal verb endings; recite 1st declension, 2nd declension, and 2nd declension neuter noun endings; and examine maps of the ancient Mediterranean and identify Italy and Rome on the map.

Mathematics

Kindergarteners will explore mathematical concepts using manipulatives and interactive learning centers. They will be able to recognize, count, and write numbers 1-100. Students will understand concepts such as larger, smaller, before, and after in numbers 1-100. Skills such as counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's to 100, as well as identifying time to the hour and half hour will be mastered. This course will also cover the value of coins and dollar bills, addition facts through 10, one-step story problems, and beginning subtraction.

Kinder Music (Required)

This elective was designed to provide kinder students with a well-rounded education through exposure to music and physical education. During the music elective, students will explore rhythm and movement in the context of songs and games while using rhythm sticks and musical instruments.

Science

In this course, history and science topics are covered through thematic units. Each theme is introduced through rich “living books” and explored interactively using the Charlotte Mason philosophy. Topics covered include insects, apples, space, animals, ocean, weather, Texas, magnets, pilgrims, Native Americans, Thanksgiving, and many more. Sterling exceeds the TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) for kindergarten history and science.

First Grade

History

First grade history begins with creation and explores the ancient civilizations including Israel, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. These time periods are brought to life through interactive projects, art, and amazing literature.

Language Arts

First grade language arts continue to build on the student's knowledge of phonograms by introducing consonant and vowel teams. These skills are used to develop increased reading fluency and spelling skills. In grammar, students will learn parts of speech as well as increase their knowledge of the conventions of writing. First graders enjoy many of the classic readers including *Frog and Toad*, *Little Bear*, and *Henry and Mudge*.

K-4 Latin (Required)

At Sterling, every student is required to take Latin in K-4th grade. Students will recite specific Latin greetings and follow a selection of Latin commands; recite Latin numbers 1-20; recite Latin numbers (by tens) from 1-100; recite the Latin names for classroom items; recognize and recite the Latin accusative form for 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form of 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form for selected body parts; read and discuss Latin picture book stories; sing songs in Latin; recite 1st conjugation verb paradigm and personal verb endings; recite 1st declension, 2nd declension, and 2nd declension neuter noun endings; and examine maps of the ancient Mediterranean and identify Italy and Rome on the map.

Mathematics

In this course, students learn number recognition, counting and writing 1-1,000; counting and writing by tens, fives, twos, and threes; number sequences; ordinal numbers; addition facts through 13 and three-digit addition with carrying; subtraction facts through 13 and two-digit subtraction; counting and combining coins; telling time to the nearest five minutes; recognizing odd and even numbers; English and metric measures; place value in ones, tens, and hundreds; unit fractions; reading a thermometer; concept of multiplication; and reading pictographs and bar graphs.

Science

In this course, the focus is on life science. Students explore the human body and the unique way God created us, animal classification and habitats, plants, trees, and root systems. "Living Books," hands-on activities, and arts and crafts bring this subject to life.

Second Grade

History

Second-grade history begins with the fall of the Roman Empire and explores the Medieval and Renaissance periods in history. Students become enchanted with this era through historical literature, hands-on experiences, such as a Medieval Feast, and art projects.

Language Arts

Second-grade language arts expand upon their knowledge of phonograms by learning prefixes and suffixes. Students add to the spelling rules they have previously learned and apply these new skills in their spelling, reading, and writing. They learn to write descriptive sentences and transition into writing paragraphs, as they explore characters, plot, and setting within the context of quality literature.

K-4 Latin (Required)

At Sterling, every student is required to take Latin in K-4th grade. Student will recite specific Latin greetings and follow a selection of Latin commands; recite Latin numbers 1-20; recite Latin numbers (by tens) from 1-100; recite the Latin names for classroom items; recognize and recite the Latin accusative form for 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form of 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form for selected body parts; read and discuss Latin picture book stories; sing songs in Latin; recite 1st conjugation verb paradigm and personal verb endings; recite 1st declension, 2nd declension, and 2nd declension neuter noun endings; and examine maps of the ancient Mediterranean and identify Italy and Rome on the map.

Mathematics

This course teaches number recognition, counting, and writing 1-10,000; counting and writing to hundred thousands; ordinal numbers; addition facts through 18, column addition, four-digit addition with carrying; subtraction facts through 18, four-digit subtraction with borrowing; multiplication facts 0- 5; division facts 1-5; estimation; rounding; numbers before and after by ones, twos, threes, fours, fives, and tens; counting and combining coins and bills; telling time to the nearest minute; English and metric measures; drawing and measuring lines to one-half inch; place value to thousands; unit fractions; making change; reading a thermometer; and reading pictographs, bar graphs, and line graphs.

Science

The focus of second-grade science is on Earth Science. The course of study during this year will include planets, constellations, weather, earthquakes, volcanoes, tornadoes, the water cycle, erosion, fossils, and minerals. Students explore these areas of science through hands-on experiments, projects, and “living books.”

Third Grade

History

This course continues on its journey through time by learning about the colonial period, the struggle for independence, westward expansion, and other historical world events that encompass this time frame through 1850. Third-grade students also study Texas history, including major battles, historical figures, geography, and contributions.

Language Arts

This course continues to refine spelling skills through phonics-based instruction and memorization of spelling rules. Writing skills progress, as students write in expository, persuasive, narrative, and descriptive styles during the stages of the writing process. They learn to make inferences and draw conclusions while reading their novels and participating in class discussions and projects. Previous grammar skills are reviewed and more complex skills are introduced and practiced through narration and copy work.

K-4 Latin (Required)

Sterling students are required to take Latin in K-4th grade. Students will recite specific Latin greetings and follow a selection of Latin commands, Latin numbers 1-20, Latin numbers (by tens) from 1-100, Latin names for classroom items. Students will also recognize and recite the Latin accusative form for 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form of 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form for selected body parts; read and discuss Latin picture book stories; sing songs in Latin; recite 1st conjugation verb paradigm and personal verb endings; recite 1st declension, 2nd declension, and 2nd declension neuter noun endings; and examine maps of the ancient Mediterranean and identify Italy and Rome on the map.

Mathematics

Third-grade math covers telling time; recognition of the place value of numbers; addition facts and checking addition problems with carrying; subtraction facts and checking subtraction facts with borrowing; division tables 1-12; using a ruler; solving story problems with up to four steps; recognizing and solving number sentences; converting measures and solving measurement equations; recognizing and working with greater

than and less than signs; counting money and solving money problems using the decimal point correctly; solving problems with parentheses; fraction terminology; averaging numbers; reading a thermometer; recognizing geometric shapes; and finding the unknown number in an equation.

Science

In third grade, students study elementary chemistry by experimenting with the way atoms and molecules react with one another to form different substances. Students learn the basic terms, are introduced to the periodic table, and learn to record observations and results.

Fourth Grade

History

In fourth grade history, students explore the Civil War, Reconstruction, the World Wars, and the advancements we have made in space travel and other areas of technology. This time period is brought to life through literature from this time period, reenactments, timelines, and art activities.

Language Arts

Fourth-grade language arts covers spelling through continued reinforcement of phonograms and spelling rules, grammar, writing, and literature. Students work to refine their writing style and expand upon previous composition skills that were introduced. Literature is used as a springboard for analysis and discussion of literary techniques.

K-4 Latin (Required)

At Sterling, every student is required to take Latin in K-4th grade. Student will recite specific Latin greetings and follow a selection of Latin commands; recite Latin numbers 1-20; recite Latin numbers (by tens) from 1-100; recite the Latin names for classroom items; recognize and recite the Latin accusative form for 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form of 20 animals; recognize and recite the Latin plural form for selected body parts; read and discuss Latin picture book stories; sing songs in Latin; recite 1st conjugation verb paradigm and personal verb endings; recite 1st declension, 2nd declension, and 2nd declension neuter noun endings; and examine maps of the ancient Mediterranean and identify Italy and Rome on the map.

Mathematics

This course teaches place value of whole numbers and decimals; mastery of fundamental operations; estimating answers; English and metric measures; converting measures within the same system and solving measurement equations; roman numerals; addition, subtraction, and multiplication involving fractions; averaging; factoring; divisibility measures; introduction to decimals; making change; reading a thermometer; solving equations using addition and subtraction axioms; graphs and scale drawing; basic geometric shapes; perimeter and area; using an English and metric ruler; and problems with time lapse.

Science

Science 4 is an introduction to physics, which begins with a classroom discussion based on the book, *Archimedes and the Door of Science*. After laying a solid foundation on the principals of physics, students explore magnetism, gravity, light, sound, motion, and various form of energy through hands-on labs and experiments.

Grammar School Electives

Art 1/2

Drawing - Students will learn basic drawing and sketching techniques and how to use lines and patterns in drawing to create different projects.

Painting - Students will learn about the styles of different artists and create painting in the style of Picasso, Van Gogh, Impressionists, among others.

Exploring Art Mediums - This session covers a sampling of many things, including pastels, watercolor, tempers, charcoal, and collage.

Designing with Paper - Students will experiment with paper to create masks, origami, recycled art, collage, paper Mache, and paper sculpture.

Each session will change with each grading period; therefore, there will be two sessions in the fall.

Art 3/4

Painting - Students will learn technique and principals of mixing colors to create different projects along with experimenting with different paint mediums.

3D Design/Sculpture - Students will experiment with different types of 3D materials, such as clay, paper design, straw sculptures, mobiles, paper masks, paper mache, among others.

Drawing - Students will learn basic drawing and sketching techniques and how to use lines and patterns in drawing to create projects.

Exploring Art Mediums - This session covers a sampling of various things, including pastels, watercolor, tempers, charcoal, and collage.

Book Club

Students will be exposed to time-honored picture books (1st/2nd) or chapter books (3rd/4th) and participate in reading activities and an art project or craft for each book. No outside work is required.

Campus Day

Campus days are electives designed to provide additional days of guidance that some students may need to encourage success with the demands of Sterling's curriculum. They will be led by a certified teacher who will manage each individual student's academic track. Campus days are offered on Monday and Wednesday.

Crafting

Students will explore many of the handicrafts that are part of a Charlotte Mason education. They will make crafts using cross stitch, paper crafts, friendship bracelets, felt crafting, painting, clay, string art and much more.

Garden Club

"We are all meant to be naturalists, each in his own degree, and it is inexcusable to live in a world so full of the marvels of plant and animal life and to care for none of these things."

Charlotte Mason.

This elective will expose students to the hands-on classroom of gardening. They will discover various plants and vegetation, understand about seasonal planting, plan themed gardens, plant and harvest. They will have opportunities to interact with their harvest through simple cooking activities and crafts. They will also explore the value of nutrition and provision as well as ways to share the benefits of the garden with their own families and through service outreach of the harvest into the community.

Kindergarten Art

This elective is designed to introduce students to art using different techniques. Students receive instruction and practice in drawing and painting. They will discover the basic principles of art, including types of lines, basic shapes, color, texture, foreground/background, symmetry, and linear movement.

Kindergarten STEM Lab

This elective allows students to use their imaginations and creativity to build, to invent, and to construct, all while applying the design process and their critical-thinking skills. They may be given a challenge to solve with creating a contraption from available materials in the lab to solve the challenge and at other times, they will create an original design that is student driven. They will learn about the scientific process as sometimes creations fail and adjustments need to be made.

Physical Education

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop stamina and endurance. The emphasis is on how students react and respond to others and perform well-defined combinations of movements. Students will learn to develop patterns and combinations of movements using locomotor and non-locomotor skills. Students will continue to learn to manipulate objects with a partner (throwing, catching, striking, and kicking). Students will learn to analyze their performance in order to learn or improve a movement skill. Students will continue to learn fitness concepts and participate in a variety of fitness development exercises.

Sewing/Crafting

This elective is an advanced version of crafting from the younger elective. Students will sew felt stuffed animals by hand, make trinket boxes out of plastic canvas, make figurines out of clay, weave friendship bracelets, and make Christmas crafts, including a small Christmas tree and decorations and many more handicrafts.

LEGO® STEM Lab

This elective allows students to use their imaginations and creativity to build, to invent, and to construct a variety of Lego creations and designs. They may be given a challenge to solve by creating a contraption from available materials in the lab and at other times, they will create an original design that is student driven. This class will encourage students to work in groups and share ideas/materials. It will also allow students to design and build their own creations independently. This is a perfect class for students who enjoy creating, building and those who have a boundless imagination.

STEM Makerspace

This elective allows students to use their imaginations and creativity to build, to invent, and to construct, all while applying the design process and their critical-thinking skills. They may be given a challenge to solve with creating a contraption from available materials in the lab to solve the challenge and at other times, they will create an original design that is student driven. They will learn about the scientific process as sometimes creations fail and adjustments need to be made.

School of Logic CORE Program

MATH

Math 5

Students will learn the place value of whole numbers and decimals; mastery of fundamental operations; problem-solving strategies; roman numerals; measuring to the quarter inch; calculating time; making change; rounding off whole numbers, money, decimals, and mixed numbers; converting measures within the same system and solving measurement equations; addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division involving fractions; finding parts of a whole; factoring; divisibility rules; probability; addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division involving decimals; introduction to percent; reading a thermometer; negative temperature; reading graphs and scale drawings; graphing ordered pairs; perimeter and area; and estimation.

Math 6

Students will learn place value of whole numbers and decimals; maintaining skills in fundamental operations; story problems; English and metric measures; converting measures within the same system and solving measurement equations; adding, subtracting, and multiplying measures; prime factoring; fundamental operations involving fractions and decimals; estimation; ratios and proportion; percent; probability; graphs and scale drawings; introduction to statistics; basic geometric shapes; perimeter, area, and circumference; bisecting angles; reading thermometers; converting Celsius to Fahrenheit and Fahrenheit to Celsius; solving one step equations; introduction to basic algebra; finding percent interest.

Pre-Algebra 7

In this course, students will learn the principles of mathematics; English and metric measures; basic algebraic concepts; signed numbers; powers and roots; like and unlike terms; multiplying and dividing monomials; problem-solving strategies; word problems solved algebraically; reading and constructing graphs; graphical scale drawings; statistics and probability; business math; basic plane and solid geometric concepts; properties of geometric figures; constructing geometric figures; perimeter, area, surface area, and volume; Pythagorean rule; and scientific notation.

Algebra 8 (Graduation/High School Requirement)

In Algebra I, students will learn about linear equations with one variable; algebraic numbers; graphs, formulas, positive and negative numbers; fundamental operations; special products and factoring; fractions; ratio, proportion, and variation; linear systems of equations; powers and roots; exponents and radicals; and quadratic equations.

ENGLISH

English 5

This course uses instruction in grammar, spelling, and classical roots vocabulary to aide in the construction of composition. Using an incremental approach to writing, students develop a solid foundation in writing as they compose descriptive, narrative, expository and creative pieces. Students learn the art of literary analysis through numerous classical selections.

English 6

This course builds upon the skills learned in Language Arts 5, while continuing to expand and develop skills in literary response and analysis, and applying that knowledge in written composition. Students will read numerous classical novels and various selections from Shakespeare and other noteworthy poets. Students will apply their knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, and punctuation as they refine their composition skills and write in all genres, including completing a research paper.

English 7

Students will study classical roots vocabulary in order to enhance their vocabulary as well as provide a foundation for studying the verbal sections of college admission tests. They will also have the opportunity to use new grammar concepts and reading vocabulary in their writing, and to correct and revise their compositions using the MLA Handbook, dictionary, and thesaurus while writing narrative, expository, research, creative, and persuasive pieces.

English 8

Students will develop skills in writing the first draft of an essay in a limited time period and in taking notes over literature to use as a source of writing. Students will develop and refine their skills in evaluating themes, characters, conflicts, and structures of literature. Studies in classical vocabulary roots equip students for college admission tests. English 8 students enhance their writing skills by composing a variety of research, narrative, persuasive, and literary analysis essays. Literature selections include classical titles as well as selections from Shakespeare.

SCIENCE

Science 5

Fifth-grade students will explore animal classification through the study of insects and birds building an understanding of why the design they see in these incredible creatures points them to our creator God. After becoming amateur ornithologists, they will study bats and explore common misconceptions about bats. Students will then study entomology, the study of insects, and will learn to scientifically classify insects by their wings and other characteristics.

Science 6

Sixth grade science revisits astronomy by studying the nature of astronomy and the major structures of our solar system. Starting with the sun and working towards Pluto, the student will learn details about all of the planets in the solar system. Along the way, the student will also learn about earth's moon, the asteroid belt, and the Kuiper belt. After that, the student will move outside our solar system and learn about the stars and galaxies that make up God's incredible universe. Finally, the student will learn about space travel and what it takes to be an astronaut! During the second semester, this course explores the creatures of the ocean as well as the topography and climate of the ocean floor.

Science 7

This course is our students' first systemic introduction to the sciences. The course covers topics like the history of science, scientific method, designing experiments, simple machines, archaeology, geology, paleontology, biology, and human anatomy and physiology. Science 7 uses many hands-on experiments and projects to solidify the concepts learned.

Science 8

This course is an introduction to physics and chemistry. Students create and engage in several hands-on experiments to explore these topics.

HISTORY

History 5

Students study ancient history, including the major events, cultural contributions and importance of the ancient Israelites, Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, and other Middle Eastern nations. During the fall semester, students focus on Old Testament histories, beginning with creation, and in the spring, students concentrate on ancient Greece and Rome. Teachers use hands-on, interactive teaching methods to emphasize certain time periods, historical figures and events that were influential in history.

History 6

Students study the Medieval and Early Renaissance periods. They learn about church history and key protestant reformers and leaders of the Renaissance. Students examine this period closely by developing timelines, creating art projects, and surveying art and pictures from this era. History 6 will look at what was happening worldwide in the order that it happened. So, while the Renaissance and Reformation were taking shape in Europe, students will look at the rise of wealthy empires in West Africa, the Mogul dynasty of India, and the peaceful lives of the Aborigines of Australia. The class will visit Ivan the Terrible in Russia and the Tokugawa family in Japan. Students will also read about the master painters and sculptors who significantly influenced this time in history.

History 7

Students study American History and politics from 1492 to 1865. From Leif Ericson to early 19th-century culture, this engaging overview brings America's history to life through interactive discussions, projects, dramatizations, and hands-on activities. Students explore historic events, the atmosphere surrounding them, and their impact on the country's future.

History 8

Students study American History and politics from 1865 to the present. Students will examine important events in American history, including the atmosphere in which they occurred and their impact on the future of America. They will learn about the latter half of American history with emphasis on the Civil War and Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, World Wars I & II, The Great Depression, The Cold War and more.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Latin 1 (Required class for all 7th graders)

Studying Latin provides middle school students with a solid foundation for academic achievement and personal growth, making it a valuable, rewarding pursuit. Latin has been required in schools for centuries. Dr. Christopher Perrin exclaims, “You will likely find that the study of Latin brings life to your student’s learning and becomes a silver key that opens a dozen different doors”. Students may continue with Latin or switch to Spanish their 8th grade year. Spanish is offered throughout the School of Rhetoric. Latin 1 is required for graduation from Sterling.

Latin 2

Students continue the journey into the second year of a three-year, well-integrated unit study of the Latin language. Students will progress in further understanding of the Latin language for reading purposes, understanding and comprehension of the history and culture of Roman civilization and advancement in overall vocabulary.

Spanish 1 (8th-12th)

Students develop fluency and confidence in Spanish through a variety of listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities. New vocabulary is introduced along with grammar concepts such as infinitives, negative statements, adjectives, definite/indefinite articles, word order, and subject pronouns.

FORMAL LOGIC* 8th Grade (Graduation/High School Requirement)

Formal logic develops logic that can assess and analyze the arguments that occur in natural language (“everyday or ordinary language”) discourse. Discussions in the field may address instances of scientific, legal, and other technical forms of reasoning, but the overriding aim has been a comprehensive account of argument that can explain and evaluate the arguments found in discussion, debate and disagreement as they manifest themselves in daily life — in social and political commentary; in news reports and editorials in the mass media; in advertising and corporate and governmental communications; and in personal exchange. The mastery of informal logic (the logical fallacies) is a foundational subject by which other subjects are evaluated, assessed, and learned. *Fallacy* comes from the Latin *fallacia*, for deceit. It technically means a flaw in an argument that makes it deceptive or misleading.

4-DAY CORE PROGRAM

The 4-day program includes the M/T/TH program plus the Structured Study Lab on Wednesday. This day is proctored by Sterling instructors to actively aid students in completing assignments and to provide additional academic support as needed.

School of Logic Electives

- *Students have the opportunity to choose from a diverse selection of electives to enhance their academic journey.*
- *Elective curriculum rotates every two years allowing students to take electives twice without repetition of material and theme.*

Art

Students will explore foundation concepts of Elements and Principles of Art, experiment with different mediums, learn about several art styles, techniques and lives of various famous artists, and try different 2-D and 3-D crafts. While working on the various projects, (when it's appropriate to do so) students are really encouraged to use their creativity and think outside of the box.

Coding

Coding is offered during the Fall semester. Our project-based coding course is designed to engage students with no prior coding knowledge and to ignite students' passion for STEM. Throughout the course, students will gain an introductory understanding of a variety of tools and languages, including Scratch and Python. This is a great introduction to computer science. Coding is required before taking the Robotics elective.

Crafting

Crafting is offered during the spring semester. Crafting is an ever-changing class with multiple options for student projects from creating bookmarks to designing stuffed animals, there is something in this class for everyone. The projects are always changing and evolving each year. This class is fun for both girls and boys!

Extreme Science (5th and 6th grade students)

Delve into the world of science through hands-on experiments and activities that ignite the imagination and encourage students to apply science and mathematics skills. Students participate in hands-on activities that reinforce the learning that takes place in their science classes. From learning about the center of gravity to building marble runs, your child is sure to be challenged in this fun elective!

Physical Education (PE)

Physical Education offers the opportunity for our students to develop team work, cooperation, physical strength and stamina. Our coaches teach basic ball handling skills, team play and emphasize Christian behavior in sports. Our students develop positive relationships while interacting with others in physical education by learning to resolve conflict/disagreements in socially acceptable ways during games and activities.

Robotics

Robotics is offered during the Spring semester. Students learn the basics of robotics and how robots are used in today's world. Students apply their coding skills to program Edison Robots to perform different intricate, exciting tasks. This is a great hands-on introductory class to robotics. Coding is a prerequisite class.

Sewing

Sewing is offered during the fall semester. Students learn a variety of hand stitches as well as how to operate a sewing machine. A variety of different sewing projects are available to our students during the semester to enrich their sewing expertise. Each semester offers new exciting challenges!

STEM (7th and 8th grade students)

This STEM class incorporates hands-on lab work, games, engineering projects, science videos, and group discussions to help students learn about the exciting world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The STEM elective engages students in hands-on activities as they apply Math and Science in the real world. One of the favorite activities is the Competitive Marble Run! Students will be competing in a balsa wood bridge building contest as well.

Strength and Conditioning (7th- 12th)

The strength and conditioning curriculum focus on developing and improving health-related fitness, which includes Muscular Strength, Muscular Endurance, Cardiovascular Endurance, Flexibility, and Improved Body Composition. We will include core training, various cardio workouts, some weight training, and ladders/pyramid workouts. Our goal is to see our students grow in skill and strength while they develop confidence and character and above all have fun!

Tutorial Lab

The tutorial lab is a quiet place for students to study or catch up on school work and get extra help when needed from a teacher. Students in this lab are required to work quietly and stay on task during the entire period.

School of Rhetoric CORE Program

****Graduation Requirement***

*****Graduation Requirement/Dual Credit Option***

ENGLISH

English I - Honors*

English will weave together with History as a reflection of humanities. The curriculum will integrate history, literature, philosophy, and theology. It will emphasize Greek & Roman history, philosophy, and early Christian theology. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures including scripture as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing by using ideas from discussion and books being read as a base to their defense.

English II - Honors*

English will weave together with History as a reflection of humanities. The curriculum will integrate history, literature, philosophy, and theology. It will emphasize medieval history, philosophy and cover the early church fathers through Reformation. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures, including scripture, as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing by using ideas from discussion and books being read as a base to their defense. Students will develop extensive writing portfolios.

English III/Composition - Honors**

The journey continues on the creation of the tapestry with the merging of English and historical reflection. The curriculum will integrate history, literature, philosophy, and theology. It will emphasize works centered on post-Reformation to the present. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures including scripture as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will sharpen the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing by using ideas from discussion and books being read as a base to their defense. Students will develop extensive writing portfolios as well as the Senior Thesis in preparation for their defending of such theses in the fall of the senior year.

English IV/Literature - Honors**

Students will further explore Modern American Literature through a combined perspective of the historical timeline and impact on said literature as well as society. The class will find its' roots in the established Socratic method with the emphasis on discussion, exploration, research and presentation brought forth from various literature including scripture. The Senior Thesis will be submitted and presented in the fall as a culmination from the preparation completed in the junior year.

HISTORY

History/Humanities I - Honors*

History will weave together with English as a reflection of humanities. The curriculum will integrate history, literature, philosophy, and theology. It will emphasize Greek & Roman history, philosophy, and early Christian theology. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures, including scripture, as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing.

History/Humanities II - Honors*

Students will continue to journey through the story of history through the reflection of humanities. The curriculum will continue to weave together the historical foundation, literature, philosophy, theology and art appreciation. It will emphasize medieval history and philosophy and cover the early church fathers through Reformation. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures including scripture as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing. This class will be extended to give students ample time for discussion and conferencing.

History/Humanities III - Honors**

Students will continue to journey through the story of history through the reflection of humanities. The curriculum will continue to weave together the historical foundation, literature, philosophy, theology and art appreciation. It will emphasize the post-Reformation to the present. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures including scripture as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing.

History/Humanities IV - Honors**

Students will culminate their journey through history with a further and extensive review of Modern American studies. The curriculum will continue to weave together the historical foundation, literature, philosophy, theology and art appreciation. This class is designed to be discussion based and will require students to draw connections from various literatures including scripture as they are provoked to answer such questions that require moral depth and Christian worldview. Students will begin the process of defending a point of view both orally and in writing.

SCIENCE

Biology - Honors*

This college-preparatory curriculum provides high school students an in-depth exploration with detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of biology. Heavily emphasizing the vocabulary of biology, it provides the student with a strong background in the scientific method, the five-kingdom classification scheme, microscopy, biochemistry, cellular biology, molecular and Mendelian genetics, evolution, dissection, and ecosystems. It also provides a complete survey of the five kingdoms in Creation as well as covering the anatomy and physiology of the human body's 11 organ systems in detail.

Chemistry - Honors*

This course is designed to give the student a rigorous foundation in Chemistry. The course covers significant figures, units, classification, the mole concept, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, acids and bases, redox reactions, solutions, atomic structure, Lewis structure, molecular geometry, the gas laws, and equilibrium.

Physics and Lab - Honors**

Students will explore the parameters of physics through the study of key topics which will include the nature of scientific knowledge, motion and the Medieval Model of the Heavens, Newton's laws of Motion, variation and proportion, energy, heat, temperature, waves, sounds, light, electricity, DC circuits, fields and magnetism, substances, atomic models, the Bohr and Quantum Model of the Atom, and Atomic bonding. Students will participate in lab work, hands-on activities, and in-depth exploration.

Advanced Environmental Science and Lab – Honors**

Environmental Science is a science based, relevant, interdisciplinary course that combines ideas from the natural and social sciences. Students will study the interconnections between the environmental and societal systems. The content areas addressed are: interdependence of earth's systems, human population dynamics, renewable/nonrenewable resources (distribution, ownership, use, degradation), environmental/society. This course will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement exam.

MATH

Geometry - Honors*

Geometry students will learn the span of geometrical elements including points, lines, planes, angles, deductive reasoning, parallel lines and planes, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals, inequalities in geometry, similar polygons, right triangles, circles, constructions and loci, areas of plane figures, areas and volumes of solids, coordinate geometry and transformations.

Algebra II - Honors*

In Algebra II, students will learn inequalities and proofs, linear equations and functions, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, triangle trigonometry, trigonometric graphs and identities, trigonometric applications, statistics and probability, matrices and determinants.

Finite Math - Honors**

Finite Math is a course for students who are not in the Calculus track. There is a lot of interesting and useful math that doesn't appear in the Calculus track, but teaches critical thinking just as well. The course is a sequence of topics, most of which stand alone. Each topic has a "big idea" and at least one sensible application. The topics are things like Counting and Probability, Statistics and Data Handling, Matrix Arithmetic and Cryptography, Geometry, Financial Math and Voting schemes. See the next pages for descriptions of the topics. By studying God's well-ordered creation, which includes mathematics, we find His character reflected throughout. Truths are demonstrable. And by learning how to learn in systematic, logical ways, we learn to defend our faith from external arguments. We develop the ability to think carefully and critically so that we can advance godly ideas like family values and sanctity of life in the public sphere.

Pre-Calculus - Honors**

In this course, students will expand their knowledge of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions to include power, polynomial, rational, and trigonometric functions. Students will investigate and explore mathematical ideas, develop multiple strategies for analyzing complex situations and use graphing calculators to build understanding and solve problems. Real-life data and applications are provided throughout this course as a means to add further opportunities for generating and analyzing mathematical models.

Calculus - Honors**

Calculus will develop the student's understanding of the concepts of calculus including functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, integrals, and their applications as well as polynomial approximations and series.

Elementary Statistics - Honors

Topics include summarizing and graphing data, correlation and linear regression, probability including the Binomial Formula, the normal distribution, sampling techniques, and tests for significance.

GOVERNMENT

Government - Honors**

The emphasis on this class will center around students understanding world issues, identifying the rights and obligations of citizens and to become active participants in the democratic process. This is a one semester class.

ECONOMICS

Economics - Honors**

Economics and the Free Enterprise System focus on the impact of economics on the lives of people. Economics emphasizes the basic principles of production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services in the United States and a comparison with those of other countries.

BIBLE

History of the Early Church

Students are invited to continue on from a historical study of the Hebrew people to an investigation of the history of the Church. This was so evidently necessary to Christians of the fourth century that one of their own, Eusebius, the bishop of Caesarea, wrote the first book to recount the struggles and victories of the first followers of Christ. Students can now dedicate an entire year to learning the material those Christians began investigating almost 1,700 years ago.

The Acts of Apostles*

The history of Christianity, particularly that of the early church, is something every Christian should know. But when we talk about which books, we should read about the history of the Church, we often forget the most important and informative book: The Book of the Acts of the Apostles. Here is the exciting story of the travels, the teachings, and—in many cases—the martyrdoms of the apostles themselves, as told by the author of the Gospel of Luke. Christian history starts here.

The Study of CS Lewis and His Works*

Before his death in 1963, C. S. Lewis found time to produce some sixty first-quality works of literary history, literary criticism, theology, philosophy, autobiography, Biblical studies, historical philology, fantasy, science fiction, letters, poems, sermons, formal and informal essays, a historical novel, a spiritual diary, religious allegory, short stories, and children's novels. Clive Staples Lewis was not a man: he was a world. In this class, students will go on an exploration of this world through the words of Lewis himself, in a comprehensive tour of his faith and his fiction.

CIVICS

Civics*

This course is designed to help students become engaged and effective citizens. It is the intent that it will impact them to improve students' civic knowledge, civic skills and civic disposition which are strong predictors of students' long-term civic engagement. Students will learn a basic understanding of the democratic principles, of how the government process works, and one's role in the process, is necessary to become an engaged and effective citizen. The student will learn the skills needed to participate in the democratic process effectively. Students must be able to think critically about an advocacy issue by identifying a goal and creating a logical plan of action to address a root cause. Finally, the students' desires of motivation to actively participate in the political process and take action on issues they care about. These will include a student's sense of social responsibility, civics agency and self-efficacy and identify all important in achieving our goal of creating engaged youth community leaders.

CREATIVE WRITING

Creative Writing

Within this class, students will be provided opportunity to be instructed and supported in the areas of creative writing, journalistic writing, and other genres not covered in length within the English class. Students will have time to discuss current writing assignments and get feedback and direction to improve their overall writing style and projects

COMMUNICATIONS

Apologetics*

This is the final course that is covered in the Communicators for Christ program. Defending the faith is a matter of both content and presentation. Therefore, apologists must know what they believe and how to talk about it. The purpose of this class is to give students an introductory understanding of the basic issues surrounding Christian apologetics and to provide opportunities for practicing apologetic communication. Students will access a primary text as well as several supplementary resources.

Speech and Debate**

This Sophomore high school course is designed to give students the opportunities to gain poise, develop personal interests, and share responsibilities for group projects. Students will have opportunities to acquire listening skills, to learn fundamentals of oral presentation in speech and prepared debates, to increase their vocabularies through word study and oral presentations, to increase their vocabularies as it relates to speech and debate, prepare and present various types of speeches, to participate in group discussions, to experience platform reading and speaking, to receive an introduction to debate, to meet some of the challenges of performing through mass media and to develop interpersonal communications and poise. These skills will help students become skillful communicators of God's glory to others.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurship*

This program empowers participants with academic, entrepreneurial and 21st century skills that are universal for the success of college and career readiness. It engages students with hand-on, project-based exploration, focusing on a student's passion and interests for the development and implementation of a business idea. It takes students through the five phases of Think It, Plan It, Start It, Manage It, and Grow It. Students could be running their own business at the culmination of this program

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Latin 1* (If not taken in 7th or 8th grade)

Students will journey to a time almost 2000 years ago when the Roman Empire controlled almost all of Europe. Set in Rome in AD 79, students become acquainted with the Latin language and gain an appreciation of Roman influences on our civilization. The purpose of this course is to teach comprehension of the Latin language for reading purposes and to develop an understanding of the history and culture of Roman civilization.

Latin 2

Students continue the journey into the second year of a three-year, well-integrated unit study of the Latin language. Students will progress in further understanding of the Latin language for reading purposes, understanding and comprehension of the history and culture of Roman civilization and advancement in overall vocabulary.

Latin 3

Students continue the stimulating, historically accurate story line of Units 1 and 2. Students will progress further in their understanding of the Latin language for reading purposes, understanding and comprehension of the history and culture of Roman civilization and advancement in overall vocabulary.

Spanish 1

Students develop fluency and confidence in Spanish through a variety of listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities. New vocabulary is introduced along with grammar concepts such as infinitives, negative statements, adjectives, definite/indefinite articles, word order, and subject pronouns.

Spanish 2

The second year of the Spanish program continues to take students through the multi-year foreign language program that will further enhance fluency and confidence in Spanish. This will develop through enhanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. Students will continue to add vocabulary and grammar concepts building upon those elements learned through the first-year program.

Spanish 3

The third year of the Spanish program continues to take students through the multi-year foreign language program that will further enhance fluency and confidence in Spanish. This will develop through enhanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. Students will continue to add vocabulary and grammar concepts building upon those elements learned through the first two years of the program.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Personal Finance*

This is a required core class for Freshman that is based on the Financial Foundation program of Dave Ramsey. It provides the engaging curriculum to walk students through the key concepts and practical implementation of money understanding and management. Students will learn about budgeting, saving, investing, debt avoidance, car and house purchases and retirement. It is the hope that providing this foundational learning will set the platform for a successful transition from home, to college and then independent living.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology**

This course focuses on the study of human behavior. As an introduction to the field of psychology, this course includes consideration of psychological principles, terminology, major theories, careers, methods of experimentation, and practical applications.

RHETORIC/SENIOR THESIS

Rhetoric/Senior Thesis*

This course is aligned for juniors to prepare for their senior thesis and anchor their journey and understanding of the role of Rhetoric in their writing and speech. The senior thesis is a capstone project, the crowning achievement in a student's academic journey. In completing the thesis, students bring all that they've learned—reading, writing, and arguing—to bear on one issue. They learn the background of the topic, analyze other people's arguments, and synthesize their findings and discoveries, putting it all together to form a true, good, and beautiful whole.

This class will provide workshops, assignments, and presentation practices that walks students step-by-step through the process of writing and then delivering a thesis. Students will gradually draft the six parts of the thesis—introduction (*exordium*), statement of facts (*narratio*), thesis statement (*partitio*), argument (*confirmatio*), counterargument (*refutatio*), and conclusion (*peroratio*)—as they are taken through the thesis process from start to finish, from choosing a topic to crafting a snappy title, and everything in between.

SAT MATH PREP

SAT Math Prep

Students will have the opportunity to study with an experienced instructor in the intricacies of the math questions covered in the SAT. They will be taught the different genre of math presented in the SAT, work through practice problems, and discuss study techniques and ideas for this portion of the exam. This will be beneficial for students even preparing for the PSAT.

School of Rhetoric Electives

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

Art

Students develop and expand the basic skills from Art Foundations and will explore color, line, shape, texture, design, space, form, unity/harmony and composition. These elements of art are studied in the context of the works of great masters, and students will practice making well-informed, imaginative and inventive artistic decisions with each project assigned. Students are encouraged to experiment with original thematic ideas as they improve technical competence in drawing and painting.

Japanese Culture

This class is a one-year, one-level elective equivalent to an introductory college-level Japanese language course. Students will have a solid foundation in the Japanese language using Nakama 1 from Cengage. The inclusion of Japanese art in both classical and pop culture through history, including the arrival of Buddhism and how it influenced the native nature worship of Shintoism. In addition, there will be an exploration of how the larger Eastern mindset informed Bushido, the code of the samurai warrior, then the Japanese WWII soldier, and the “Samurai in Suits” archetype born in the 1980s. Students will develop a foundation of Japanese pronunciation, grammar, and writing in hiragana, katakana, and some kanji, all while exploring both traditional and pop cultures through the lens of Japanese history. Topics include traditional foods and games, the samurai warrior code, the geisha, manga and anime, the rise of kaiju, and technology.

Multi-Media/Podcast

This fine arts class is for students that want to excel and learn creative platforms of communication. Using three different media platforms: podcasting, creative journalism, and publishing, students will develop their communication, computer software integration, compositional arrangement, and interviewing skills to develop, design, and distribute the Sterling Podcast, Newspaper, and Arts Magazine. This class will prepare students in modern rhetorical techniques of creative expression for college. It will also teach college level editorial and design methods.

Photography

This class will include a review of the history of photography, the use of today’s digital cameras (shooting in the manual mode), image composition, color theory, lighting techniques, and the postproduction process. The objective of this class is to provide an understanding of photography allowing the student to develop a passion for taking better images and maybe a career in the photographic industry.

Sound Design

This is a beginning musical composition class that will survey, create, and learn the beginning techniques of production in various styles of music. From classical, modern ambient, film score, commercial pop, and EDM, computers have become a primary tool for music creation, production, and scoring. In this class, students will learn the ins and outs of a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation), learn how to create MIDI (computer composition) and use VSTs (Virtual Studio Technology) to develop particular sound synthesis and design. Students will gain an appreciation for many forms of music through hands-on creation of their style and creative imagination.

The Art of Animation

The art of animation is selling the illusion of life to your audience. In this class, we will study all three major forms of animation: traditional, stop motion, and computer-generated imagery (CGI) via the masters of each craft. First, we will understand the foundations common to all forms of animation, then we will study. What can we learn from animation techniques employed/ created by Tom and Jerry, The Incredibles, James and the Giant Peach, Naruto, Samurai Jack, Beauty and the Beast, Enter the Spider verse, and The Lego Movie?

We will watch behind the scenes of these productions and more to create our own productions.

Requirements:

- The most intense program we will be running is the free CG program, Blender.
- Traditional animation will be using Toon Boom, the current industry software standard, however, Adobe Photoshop can perform the same functions, but not optimally.
- Stop motion will require both a photo editing program and a video editing program.
- A pen tablet or pen display. It is essential that every modern animator becomes a master at hand and eye coordination while using a detached drawing surface or drawing directly on a relatively smooth surface, respectively. Currently, the industry leader is Wacom.
- Moleskine Sketchbook Softcover. I like these little sketchbooks because they are cheap (especially in bulk), thin, and flexible. For this class, we will be doing a lot of experimentation as students find their styles. These sketchbooks make room for the art to express itself.

Yearbook

This elective is a more advanced form of Journalism. Students will be compiling pictures and events throughout the school year to culminate in a final product that will be available to the student body for purchase. Students will explore topics such as photography, photo-journalism, and publishing.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Code Academy

Sterling offers coding classes through Code Academy which provides interactive coding courses. Students can choose courses that pique their interest and proceed at their own pace. Code Academy offers a variety of programming languages and technologies for individuals to learn and practice coding skills. Code Academy's courses are designed to be hands-on and interactive, allowing learners to write and execute code directly within the platform.

Model United Nations (9th-12th Grade)

Model United Nations is an academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real world issues with the policies and perspectives of their assigned country. For example, a student may be assigned to the United Kingdom and will have to solve global topics such as nuclear non-proliferation or climate change from the policies and perspectives of the United Kingdom. Students can attend Model United Nations conferences in the local area. These conferences are organized by universities, high schools, non-profit organizations, and other educational groups. Sterling participates at CTMUN and UTMUN each year.

Strength and Conditioning (7th- 12th)

The strength and conditioning curriculum focus on developing and improving health-related fitness, which includes Muscular Strength, Muscular Endurance, Cardiovascular Endurance, Flexibility, and Improved Body Composition. We will include core training, various cardio workouts, some weight training, and ladders/pyramid workouts. Our goal is to see our students grow in skill and strength while they develop confidence and character and above all have fun!