



WESTERN
MICHIGAN
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of twenty and a half (20.5) credits and enrolled full time in eight (8) semesters of attendance in grades 9-12 is required for graduation. All students must be minimally enrolled in seven (7) courses for credit each semester. The following units of credit constitute the core requirements for graduation:

In addition to credits earned, the following classes must successfully completed:

Michigan Merit / WMC Curriculum Requirements:

4 credits of English

- English 9 - Intro to Lit and Composition
- English 10 - World Lit and Rhetoric or American Literature
- English 11 - American Lit or AP LANG
- English 12 - British Lit and Research or AP LIT

4 credits of Math

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2
- Senior year math

3 credits of Science

- Biology
- 2 of the following:
 - Physical Science/Astronomy
 - Physics
 - Chemistry
 - Anatomy
 - AP Biology

3 credits of Social Studies

- World History & Geography
- U.S. History & Geography
- Civics (.5)
- Economics (.5)

2½ credits of Bible

- Bible 09: Intro to the Old Testament (.5)
- Bible 10: The Life & Teachings of Jesus (.5)
- Bible 11: Worldview & Apologetics (.5)?
- Bible 11: Prophets (.5)?
- Bible 12: Ethics (.5)

½ credit of Physical Education

- Girls' PE, Boys' PE, Weight Training, Advanced PE,

½ credit of Health

2 credits of a Language other than English

1 credit Fine or Applied Arts

TRANSFERRING CREDITS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS

Courses taken at other schools may be transferred to Western Michigan Christian to be counted toward meeting your graduation requirements. If you have taken Algebra 1 in 8th grade with a passing grade and achieve a score of 85% or higher on the Math section of the MAP or PSAT 7/8 test, you may receive graduation credit for the class. Students must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher in order to transfer to WMC.

COURSES OF STUDY

When planning your high school course selections you should keep in mind your long-range plans. Students who believe their career goals might require college training generally choose college preparatory courses. Students who believe their career goals may include full-time employment upon graduation from high school may choose a more vocational preparatory path. Many courses are appropriate for both types of career goals.

College Preparatory

College admissions decisions are based on several factors related to your high school academic record:

- Courses chosen from the available curriculum
- Grade point average (GPA)
- Standardized test scores (ACT/SAT)
- Class rank
- Grade trends over your high school career

The President's Council of Michigan Public Universities has established recommendations for students who want to be eligible for regular admission to a four-year degree program.

These recommendations are also consistent for most private colleges and universities.

They align with the Michigan Merit Curriculum and include:

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Math or
- 3 years of Science
- 3 years of Social Studies
- 2 years of the same Foreign Language
- 1 year of Physical Education and Health
- 1 year of Fine or Practical Arts

Many universities want students to “max out” the available curriculum – they want to see students take the most challenging academic courses available to them during their high school career. While student interests and career goals will fluctuate throughout high school, it is important for each student to take the most academically challenging courses

he or she can. This will ensure that students are prepared for whatever option they may choose after high school.

Traditional Curriculum Pathways Toward Graduation:

9th:

Math (determined by placement scores)
Physical Science + Astronomy
English 9
Old Testament Studies

World History & Geography

PE & Health
World Language
Electives

11th:

Math (in sequential order)
Science (Chemistry, Physics, or Anatomy)
American Literature **OR** AP Language
Apologetics
The Prophets
Civics or AP Government (by rec)
Economics
Electives

10th:

Math (in sequential order)
Biology
World Lit & Rhet 10 OR Amer. Lit
(teacher recommendation)
The Gospels
World Language
U.S History or AP US History (by Rec.)
Electives

12th:

Math (in sequential order)
Science (optional)
British Literature **or** AP Literature
Ethics
Electives

*Classes may be taken in alternative years as long as all prerequisites are met

*AP Classes are considered elective classes

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART

In Christian art education, students study and produce works of art based on aesthetic and historical understanding. A comprehensive curriculum includes instruction in aesthetics, art history, art criticism and art-making. In all levels, students will be responsible for maintaining and developing a personal portfolio of their work. Students are also responsible for sketchbook work, quizzes and tests. All students are encouraged to develop their God-given talents through the use of creative expression. All art classes are elective.

Middle School Art: In Middle School, students will focus on gaining and developing foundational skills and knowledge, while exploring a variety of artistic media and processes through a faith based curriculum. Experience with drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, fibers, sculpture, and ceramics will help prepare students for high school art. In addition to rotating the mediums to create art, students will explore art history, art criticism and aesthetics. Students will also be responsible for sketchbook homework, quizzes and a written final exam. All students are encouraged to develop their God given talents and express their creative voice!

Art Works: A comprehensive and rotating art curriculum is provided at all levels and covers all media at various semesters. This course introduces students to the Elements of Art and Principles of Design while developing drawing skills and painting techniques. Studio experiences in the classroom will give students opportunities to experience a variety of media (pencil, pen, ink, charcoal, pastel, fibers, watercolor, acrylic or oil paint) while developing the student's individual style and creative problem solving skills. The course allows students to culminate in an Independent project where students will be encouraged to explore personal Art goals. The elements of art and principles of design will be studied throughout the course. Students will also be responsible for sketchbook homework, quizzes and a written final exam. You must take this class before you can take Drawing & Painting or Pottery.

Video Production 1: Students will use their own digital camera and flash drive and the school's Photo Shop program to utilize various camera techniques to embrace technology and use this to your advantage. Students will learn various ways to present their photos through framing and matting.

Pottery: This course introduces students to ideas executed in various ceramic hand construction techniques including slab, coil and mold. Students explore construction processes, clay and glaze materials, firing processes and use of equipment. Emphasis will be on process and exploration. Every other year students will have the opportunity to take a Studio Pottery course. This selection will be offered to those who have already completed basic Pottery and are looking to advance their skills and explore pottery further.

Drawing & Painting: Spend an entire semester learning the Art of drawing through the use of various tools, papers and surfaces. Use of pencil, colored pencil, charcoal, pastels, oil pastels, pen and ink, crayon and mixed media will be introduced in new and interesting ways. Students will learn various ways to present their drawings through framing and matting. All Students will also be responsible for sketchbook homework, quizzes and a written final exam. In addition to drawing, students will also study the various mediums of painting. Students will explore watercolors, acrylics and oils as well as mixed media. Step by step brush and palette knife techniques will be taught, care of paint and tools on different surfaces as well as art history. All Students will also be responsible for sketchbook homework, quizzes and a written final exam. Every other year students will have the opportunity to take a Studio Drawing & Painting course. This selection will be offered to those who have already completed the original Drawing & Painting course and are looking to advance their skills further.

BIBLE

The primary emphasis of the Bible curriculum is the integration of faith, church and family in the lives of its students. The aim of this department is to discover, disseminate, and disclose the Kingdom's agenda to a world that has been separated by sin from the purpose and plan of God. Students will be challenged to move to the forefront of religious freedom and to become healthy, contributing members of the body of Christ.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE: This is a two year rotating course between the New Testament and Old Testament. In year one we will be studying the history of God's people from the time of Solomon through the birth of Jesus. In between, we'll learn about the kings of Israel and Judah, the destruction of those countries, the exile, return and the time between the Old and New Testaments. Along the way we'll find out how these events impact our lives and relationships today. In year two we will explore the New Testament, beginning with Jesus' early ministry, going through His death and resurrection, studying the early church, Paul's missionary journeys and many of the epistles. In both classes students will memorize bible verses and seek to understand how these apply to their life.

OLD TESTAMENT STUDIES: This course is the study of the Old Testament. This study will give us insight into God's relationship with His people, how God established a covenantal relationship with His chosen nation and provided redemption and atonement for them. Students will learn how to read this unique, ancient book; how to pay attention to contexts, including the historical-cultural one; and how the many stories form one story with Christ at the center of it all.

THE GOSPELS: This course is the study of the Gospels and the historical context of the Gospels. The course begins with the Babylonian captivity and return, then looks briefly at the Inter-testamental period and then focuses primarily on the four Gospels. The historical, cultural and geographical setting of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ is also emphasized.

PROPHETS: This course will examine the Old Testament prophets in light of the general trend of prophecy in Israel and the ancient Near East. The primary objective of the course is to understand the life and message of prophets in relation to the events, ideas, traditions, problems, etc., of their own time. We will study the prophets in light of the exile, attempting to see the relationship between the historical setting and the prophetic message. Considerable attention will be given to the historical situation and religious social conditions to which the prophets addressed their messages.

APOLOGETICS: This course will examine various contemporary worldviews and analyze how they stand up against a Christian worldview. Students will explore some of the major religions of the world and compare those teachings with Christianity. In addition, students will learn to defend the Christian faith by examining how the early church practiced apologetics and by answering difficult questions about Christianity faced by the modern-day church.

ETHICS: Christian Ethics is a course designed to examine the basis for and the nature of Christian conduct from a biblical and theological context. The course will focus on how God calls us to make moral decisions in a fallen world that still belongs to God. A special emphasis will be given to tough questions of daily living, while keeping in mind our responsibility as Christians to be Christ's ambassadors of grace.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY COURSES

The purpose of the Business Department is to prepare students to reflect Christianity in the way they make economic decisions affecting their personal and professional lives. Students need basic vocational and business skills to be productive in future endeavors, whether in the workplace or in higher education. Introduction to Digital Technology is required; other courses are electives.

ACCOUNTING: This course is recommended for students with an interest in business/finance, be it a business major in college, or planning to own their own business. This course introduces students to fundamental accounting principles and procedures providing a sound foundation for further study in the business area. Students will analyze financial transactions and prepare financial statements. Students may utilize computer software to apply concepts to real-life situations. At the end of the trimester, if time allows, students will complete the accounting practices for a simulated company, which ties all units of study together. Students completing Accounting may qualify for college articulation credit through Baker College and/or Muskegon Community College

ENTREPRENEURSHIP: This course is recommended for students with an interest in business. This class is an overview of the field of business study. Some of the topics covered will include the business and its environment, forms of business ownership, information and communication systems and management responsibilities.

INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (required): This course is designed to instruct students in how to use the computer as a business, education and personal tool through the use of internet-based applications. Appropriate applications for word processing, spreadsheets, email, internet-based research and graphics will be used. Class time will be spent reinforcing concepts applicable to research formatting. Emphasis will also be placed on improving student keyboarding skills utilizing the touch method of keyboarding.

ENGLISH

By nurturing the ability to communicate in words, the language arts celebrate one of God's greatest gifts to us: that of expression. To make sense of God's creation, we study various writers' interpretations of life regarding our world and culture, as well as response to others and to God Himself. God's people are also expected to communicate to the world His news of love and redemption. Accordingly, students are given opportunities to develop their communication skills in the classroom in a variety of ways: responding to literature in journals, reading logs, papers and discussion; writing research papers; reading a variety of literature; studying the English language; and writing and presenting speeches.

ENGLISH 7 (ELA7): English 7 addresses reading, writing, listening and speaking within a rigorous standards-based program. Instruction will include reading comprehension, writing in narrative and expository modes, language conventions, vocabulary development in meaningful

contexts, and reference skills. Students will study various genres including the short story, novel, drama, biography, poetry, and informational materials.

ENGLISH 8 (ELA 8): English 8 addresses reading, writing, listening and speaking within a rigorous standards-based program. Instruction will include reading comprehension, writing in narrative and expository modes, language conventions, vocabulary development in meaningful contexts, and reference skills. Students will study various genres including the short story, novel, drama, biography, poetry, and informational materials. English 8 requires students to increase their use of critical thinking skills to include analysis, synthesis, and problem solving.

ENGLISH 9: English 9 is a course which introduces analysis of literature, past and present, as well as a focus on rhetoric and composition. Students will learn skills in research, persuasive, and literary analysis writing. The course is taught as a themed-unit approach is used covering novels, short-stories, poetry, drama, and non-fiction.

SPEECH: Speech is designed to develop an understanding and appreciation of the communication process. The student will learn to develop skills in researching a topic, gathering and organizing materials for a speech, and delivering effective speeches to an audience. The student will learn to listen and evaluate oral communication effectively as well as to understand God's plan for communication. (1 semester)

ENGLISH 10: World Literature provides students with an overview of some of the great poetry, prose, and individuals in the world community, with an in-depth focus on Ancient Greece as students read Homer's *Odyssey*. This course will also focus on four main styles of writing: creative nonfiction, poetry, argumentative essays, and fictional short stories. Classroom focus will include reading and writing speeches, debates, and arguments using the classic rhetorical skills of ethos, pathos, and logos.

Prerequisite: English 9

ENGLISH 11: AMERICAN LITERATURE: American Literature focuses on the study of the evolution of American literature, emphasizing how it reflects society's differing views of man and God throughout its time periods. Emphasis is placed on becoming familiar with American writers, styles, and philosophies, and understanding how expressed themes are prevalent in today's society. Students will develop the ability to read literature with greater skill and understanding, and acquire the ability to write a critical analysis of American authors and literature.

Prerequisite: English 9 and World Literature (or teacher approval)

ENGLISH 12: BRITISH LITERATURE: British Literature provides students with a basic understanding of the English literary periods, including the Renaissance (1500-1660), Neoclassical (1660-1785), Romantic (1785-1837), and Modern periods with a special focus on the Victorian period (1837-1901). Students will develop new skills for writing, expand their vocabulary, read and discuss published material to use as models, and create a writing portfolio

of multiple pieces of finished work. In addition, students will gain a deeper understanding of the writing process, grammar and style rules, MLA citation including annotated bibliographies, and research methods. This course will prepare students for the rigors of college-level research and writing.

Prerequisite: English 9 and English 11: American Literature

AP LANG: AP English Language engages students in becoming skilled readers of non-fiction prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

Prerequisites: English 9, American Literature, and teacher recommendation

AP LIT: AP English Literature engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of novels, plays, short stories, and poetry. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism and tone. Students will expand their skills in crafting literary analysis essays based on poetry and prose.

Prerequisites: AP LANG

MEDIA STUDIES: A faith-based study of the history and development of the media. Students will learn and apply the eight concepts of media literacy. They will understand the impact of the media on today's society and the Christian response. Media studied will include journalism, advertising, radio, television, and film.

FILM AND LITERATURE: This class is designed to help students analyze literary elements as demonstrated through film. Students will study characterization, symbols, proxemics, transitions, music, and cinematography, and analyze the way that different films use these elements to tell a story.

ENGLISH FOUNDATIONS (ESL): English Foundations is an entry-level English class for international students learning English. This class will focus on everyday speaking and listening and the basics of writing and reading. Cultural and daily life topics are covered as well.

ENGLISH TRANSITIONS (ESL): English Transitions is an upper level English class for international students. This class will focus on academic writing, revising and editing. The class will also have a reading comprehension component and deal with other language skills as needed.

INDUSTRIAL ARTS:

The Industrial Arts program includes subject areas that enable students to use a hands-on approach in their pursuit of understanding and appreciating God's presence in an industrial and technological world. All courses are elective.

MECHANICAL CAD I (Engineering Design Technology 1)

Grades 9 – 12 • One Semester Course • 1/2 Credit Designed to teach the fundamentals of technical drawing (CAD/drafting) through sketching and CAD software. Material assists students in learning the language of engineering/design, preparing them for a career in Engineering/Design. Students will learn everyday tasks performed by an engineer/designer. Students will learn to make drawings of common objects from manufactured machine parts to woodworking projects. Topics include single and multi-view drawings, 3-D solid modeling, section views, sketching and dimensioning of objects. AutoCAD, Inventor and Onshape software will be used for computer drawing. This class is designed for those students interested in the engineering/design, construction trades, manufacturing or any trade requiring technical drawing and blueprint reading . Satisfies 4th Year Math Credit, and/or VPAA Credit requirement

MECHANICAL CAD II (Engineering Design Technology 2): Grades 9 – 12 • 1/2 Credit, **Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD I, (Engineering Design Technology 1),** Course will continue building on the knowledge gained from the prerequisite class. Students will learn and apply drafting practices as they relate to the world of manufacturing. This class will help further prepare students for Engineering College Majors and/or Entry Level Engineering jobs. Topics of study include: assembly and detail drawing, pattern development, auxiliary and section views, basic descriptive geometry, dimensioning, and advanced solid modeling. Satisfies 4th Year Math Credit, and/or VPAA Credit requirement.

Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD I (Engineering Design Technology 1)

ARCHITECTURAL CAD (Architectural Computer Aided Drafting and Design):

Grades 9 – 12 • One semester Course • **Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD I, (Engineering Design Technology 1),** Building on knowledge gained in the prerequisite class; Students will learn drafting practices as they relate to the world of architecture. Topics of study include: residential/commercial design, building construction methods, blueprint reading, 3D design and model building. Includes advanced concepts of Architectural Drafting. The course is project-oriented and will require students' development of a set of working architectural drawings for residential dwellings. AutoCAD and/or other software will be used to create drawings. Architectural CAD may be taken multiple times for credit. Satisfies 4th Year Math Credit, and/or VPAA Credit requirement

Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD I (Engineering Design Technology 1).

ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS - CAD (Engineering Applications

(Mechanical/Architecture)): Grades 11 - 12 • Year Course * 67120 * 1/2 Credit Course may be taken multiple times for credit. Course may be taken as one or two hours • **Prerequisite:**

Mechanical CAD I, (Engineering Design Technology 1), The study of computer aided design and drafting for machine tool products, furniture, interiors, and architecture. AutoCAD, Inventor, Onshape and/or Fusion 360 will be the primary software used. Engineering and Architectural drafting, notation lettering, and designing are included subject matter. Topics include methods of creating and presenting design concepts with thumbnails, freehand drawing proposals, rendering of perspective and orthographic plans. The students will produce original designs, inventions, problem identification and solving, visualization, designing, working drawings and presentation drawings. Team building skills through design team projects will involve students, parents, and staff. Students will be improving skills on the development of lettering, notation, descriptive geometry, dimensioning, drawing layout, and other standard drafting procedures. Other topics of the course include application of advanced modeling techniques, rapid prototype printing, robot programming, and electrical circuits design. Satisfies 4th Year Math Credit, and/or VPAA Credit

Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD I (Engineering Design Technology 1)

Housing and Home Furnishings

Grades 10 – 12 • Semester Course • 1/2 Credit This course is designed to develop basic exterior and interior construction guidelines necessary to create a favorable environment for family living. Areas of study will include construction terms, floor plans, wall to floor coverings and interior design concepts. This course will culminate in a dream house project and a class presentation. Satisfies the VPAA Credit

CNC TECHNOLOGY: This course is open to all students in 10th-12th grades who want to learn how to use the CNC (Computer Numeric Control) Machine in class. This is a one trimester course. They will use the operating software of Alpha CAM and use the Shop bot CNC Router to cut out what they have made on the computer.

Prerequisite: Mechanical CAD.

WOODS 1, 2, and 3: In these classes students will learn how to use hand tools and some limited power tools to create 3 or more wood projects in class, after that they will have a variety of additional projects of their choice to complete. Students will be given a final exam project as well. Safety, clean up and good work habits are emphasised. This course is designed to give students exposure to Industrial arts.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics program at WMCHS encourages students to understand that the subject has its roots in God's orderly creation. The mathematical underpinnings of creation are so pervasive that they are readily accessible through everyday objects and experiences; thus students can use mathematics to better understand and evaluate both natural and social phenomena. Students are encouraged to develop their ability to distinguish the numerical and spatial

properties of things, to represent them numerically or pictorially, and to generalize properties. In addition, they should be able to imagine never-ending processes, infinite classes of abstract objects, and consideration of the possible as well as the actual. Students have the opportunity to use physical models, pictorial representations, inductive and deductive methods, intuition, analogy, and comparison to discover the mathematical framework of our world.

MATH 7: Math 7 continues to solidify students' basic math skills that are necessary to be mastered for upper level courses. Topics covered in Math 7 serve to help the student master operations with rational numbers and integers, solve ratios and proportions, introduce basic geometry ideas, introduce the basic vocabulary of algebra, problem solving methods, methods of writing and solving equations, and solving story problems.

MATH 8: Students use the content learned in Math 7 to better understand the functions of Algebra 1. This course highlights applications using statistics and geometry to develop the algebra of linear equations and inequalities; however, unlike high school Algebra 1, which is language focused and SAT-driven, this class is structured for mathematical development at the middle school level.

ALGEBRA 1: Students use the content learned in Math 7 to better understand the functions of Algebra 1. Algebra 1 students move from arithmetic to mathematics and our creator's universal language. This course highlights applications using statistics and geometry to develop the algebra of linear equations and inequalities, including probability concepts in conjunction with algebraic functions. Considerable attention is given to graphing and to application of the lessons. Students will do operations with and solve various types of equations and functions: linear equations, systems of equations, and polynomial equations (especially quadratic equations by factoring and using the quadratic formula). At the end of 8th grade, students will take a placement test to determine their high school math placement.

BASIC GEOMETRY: Like the standard geometry class, Basic Geometry emphasizes both organization and developing logical thinking skills in students; this class is for students who need to learn the fundamental concepts of geometry using a step-by-step approach. Mathematical ideas are introduced and reinforced using a variety of methods, including three-dimensional models, manipulatives, construction and hands-on applications. Students who complete the class have been exposed to all of the basic geometry concepts covered by the ACT & SAT.

Prerequisite: Placement by the academic counselor in consultation with the instructor.

GEOMETRY: Geometry emphasizes organization, developing deductive and inductive reasoning abilities, and improving communication skills. Coordinates, transformations, measurement formulas and three-dimensional figures are presented throughout. To teach writing proofs and other mathematical arguments more effectively, the course lays a

step-by-step foundation of prerequisite understanding. Applications abound throughout the course.

BASIC ALGEBRA 2: Like the standard Algebra 2 class, Basic Algebra 2 emphasizes work with algebraic expressions and forms, especially linear and quadratic forms, powers and roots, and functions based on these concepts. Students study logarithms, conic sections, trigonometry, probability, and complex numbers. Students who complete the class have been exposed to all of the concepts covered by the SAT.

Prerequisite: Placement by the academic counselor in consultation with the instructor.

ALGEBRA 2: Students review and expand upon the basic terminology, notations, concepts, skills, and applications of the previous courses in algebra and geometry. This course emphasizes algebraic expressions and forms, especially linear and quadratic forms, powers and roots, and functions based on these concepts. Students study logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial and other special functions as tools for modeling real-world situations.

BUSINESS MATH: Business Math covers a wide range of contemporary personal finance-related and business-related math topics such as banking, budgeting, using credit cards, marketing, and calculating and analyzing business costs. A major emphasis of Business Math is the application of these skills to real-world scenarios students can use in their everyday lives.

PRE-CALCULUS: Students study descriptive and inferential statistics, combinatorics and probability, and do further work with polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. Enough trigonometry is covered to constitute a standard pre-calculus background in trigonometry and circular functions. Algebraic and statistical concepts are integrated throughout the course, and modeling of real phenomena is emphasized. Students will use a graphing calculator to study functions, explore the relationships between equations and their graphs, analyze data, and develop limit concepts.

AP STATS: The purpose of this two-semester course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to four themes beginning with exploring data through describing patterns and departures from patterns. They will sample and experiment through planning and conducting a study. They will anticipate patterns by exploring randomness through use of simulation and probability. Finally students will study statistical inference through estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

AP CALC: AP Calculus is the mathematical tool used to analyze changes in physical quantities. Where there is motion or growth, or where variable forces are producing acceleration, calculus

is the mathematics to apply. In previous math courses students learned how to calculate with numbers, that is, to simplify algebraic expressions, work with variables, and reason about points, lines and figures in a plane. AP Calculus involves those techniques and skills but develops others as well, with greater precision and at a deeper level.

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

MUSIC

Music is among the fine arts that can further spiritual growth, inspire further study of our world, and develop creativity and expression. Students develop skills to help them appreciate quality music, to provide aesthetic experiences, and, most importantly, to praise our God. The goals of the Music Department include nurturing four aspects for a balanced learning process: to grow in the craft of music and technical ability (to develop the body), to grow intellectually (to develop the mind), to inspire (to develop the soul), and to grow personally (to develop the heart). All courses offered are elective, full-year courses. Placement of students enrolling in performing groups requires the consent of the instructor.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND: This course welcomes all 7th and 8th grade students with previous band experience. During this course students will advance their fundamental skills of playing an instrument in an ensemble setting. Musicians will have some required evening performances throughout the year including, but not limited to, a Fall concert, Christmas concert, and Spring concert. Band members will also compete in Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) Band Festival and have the opportunity to compete in MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival.

CONCERT BAND: This course welcomes all 9th through 12th grade students with previous band experience. During this course students will advance their fundamental skills of playing an instrument in an ensemble setting. Musicians will have some evening performances throughout the year, including, but not limited to, a Fall concert, Christmas concert, Pep Band performances at varsity athletic events, a Spring concert and at WMC's graduation ceremony. Band members will also compete in Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (MSBOA) Band Festival and have the opportunity to compete in MSBOA Solo and Ensemble Festival.

JAZZ BAND: This is an audition only ensemble that welcomes any 9th through 12th grade musician wanting to perform in a jazz ensemble. Auditions take place in the Spring prior to the upcoming school year. During this course jazz musicians will gain a deeper understanding of music theory and improvisation through the use of recordings, research, performance of jazz music from many different styles and performances. Performances for this ensemble include, but are not limited to, a Fall concert, a Christmas concert and a Spring concert. The jazz band will also perform during a variety of community events.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR: Middle School Choir is a non-auditioned choral group, open to all 7th and 8th grade students. Repertoire encompasses SA & SAB literature at the primary level.

Members will work extensively on basic sight-reading skills, tone quality, articulation and performance protocol. Students in the Middle School Choir will participate in the fall Choral Workshop Day, the Middle School Christmas Cafe, the Christian School Fine Arts Festival, Pops Concert and Spring Concert. Students also have the option to participate in MSVMA Solo & Ensemble Festival.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GENERAL MUSIC: Middle school general music is a course offering for those 7th and 8th grade students not wishing to participate in a performance-based ensemble, but still seeking to fulfill their music requirement. The course will cover the scope of music history, delving into the music of the Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, and Romantic time periods. The course will also cover fundamental music theory elements, as well as tonal analysis of historical and modern music genres.

WOMEN'S CHOIR: Women's Choir is a non-auditioned choral group, open to 9th – 12th grade women. Repertoire encompasses SA-SSAA literature at the primary to intermediate level. Members will work extensively on basic sight-reading skills, tone quality, articulation and performance protocol. Students in the Women's Choir will participate in the fall Choral Workshop Day, Christmas Collage, MSVMA Choral Festival, Pops Concert and Spring Concert. Students also have the option to participate in MSVMA Solo & Ensemble Festival.

MEN'S CHOIR: Men's Choir is a non-auditioned choral group, open to 9th-12th grade men. Repertoire encompasses TB-TTBB literature at the primary to intermediate level. Members will work extensively on basic sight-reading skills, tone quality, articulation and performance protocol. Students in the Men's Choir will participate in the fall Choral Workshop Day, Christmas Collage, MSVMA Choral Festival, Pops Concert and Spring Concert. Students also have the option to participate in MSVMA Solo & Ensemble Festival.

CHAMBER CHOIR: Chamber Choir is an advanced mixed ensemble, composed of students from grades 10-12. Auditions for the Chamber Choir take place in March for the following school year. Repertoire encompasses SATB-SSAATTBB literature at the intermediate to advanced level. Additionally, the choir divides into gender ensembles for the purpose of experiencing outstanding SSAA and TTBB repertoire. Students in the Chamber Choir will participate in the fall Choral Workshop Day, Christmas Collage, MSVMA Choral Festival and Solo & Ensemble Festival, Pops Concert and Spring Concert. In addition, the Chamber Choir is frequently invited to sing at community events and worship services in the area. All Chamber Choir members are strongly encouraged to study voice privately, to hone their individual skills. Students may audition and be admitted mid-year if spots become available due to course conflicts or attrition.

HEALTH and PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The overall focus of Physical Education is to give students knowledge that will help them to care for the bodies God has given them and to develop physical activities that will serve them for a lifetime.

MS (MIDDLE SCHOOL) PE/HEALTH: Students will be taking part in a wide variety of team and individual activities. These activities will be used to promote active/healthy living, and teamwork skills. Teaching will be done on sport rules, skills and strategies and students will be assessed on the application of these areas, as well as fitness testing throughout the trimester. Christian stewardship and responsibility of our bodies will be a focal point throughout this class.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Boys PE and Girls PE: This course will feature fitness and team sports activities. Fitness activities are designed to increase health and well-being for the present, with an eye towards promoting life-long fitness. The goal of the different sports played in Physical Education is to increase skills while learning sport history, rules and strategies. Students are encouraged to find a physical activity that they enjoy, and to strengthen that area. Fitness testing is done throughout the trimester to measure improvement on physical fitness. Physical education aims to encourage regular and habitual exercise through a variety of activities in order to be faithful stewards of our bodies.

WEIGHT TRAINING: Weight Training is designed to help WMC athletes achieve or help maintain a level of strength and fitness for their athletic seasons. Students will learn to build their explosive power and overall strength. Students will also learn proper mechanics which will lead to injury prevention. This course will challenge the athlete physically and mentally as they learn about what it takes to become a better athlete through specific training. Through this course, students will be challenged and taught the importance of taking care of our God-given bodies and using their abilities as an act of worship.

Prerequisite: Participation on a WMC athletic team.

Lifetime Sports and Fitness: Lifetime sports and fitness is designed for WMC students that are looking to be exposed to activities that are appropriate as they age. Students will learn techniques for staying active and fit in a fun and competitive environment. As students learn to the importance of physical activity, they will learn about the gifts that God has blessed them with and that competition exists outside of an organized setting.

Prerequisite: 11th or 12th grader that has already completed a PE class

HEALTH: This health education course increases student knowledge about health related issues while meeting the state's and district's one semester health education requirement for graduation. The course covers basic health, nutrition, fitness, awareness of HIV/AIDS and STDs, smoking, alcohol, drugs, stress management, conflict resolution, and long range health planning. Each health unit incorporates cognitive, affective, and skill objectives into an activity centered program. Students are involved in group discussions, role playing, lectures, guest speakers, and videos in order to gain basic information to become informed health decision makers

SCIENCE

Science is the systematic study of everything that can be examined, tested or verified. Because different branches of science shape the way we understand our planet, other living things and ourselves, we need to see all of these topics in a way that makes sense of God's creation. A goal in all our classes is that students see God as the Creator and Sustainer of all of creation. This overarching belief affects our view of existing knowledge and new discoveries. Students are encouraged to use a variety of discovery methods: research in the lab and in the field, reading and responding to the textbooks and journals, written reports and analyses and discussions with peers and instructors.

SCIENCE 7: 7th grade science is taught with a continued focus on each of the different studies in science- life science, earth science, and physical science. The life science unit focuses on genetics and how certain traits and characteristics are passed from adult to offspring. The focus of our physical science units are how waves produce sound and light and the differences between physical and chemical changes. The earth science unit focuses on the atmosphere and how weather and climate play a role in our lives. Students will learn to interpret data critically from a variety of sources.

SCIENCE 8: 8th grade science continues to work on the three science areas with a focus on preparing students to enter high school. Students will experience physical science by looking at motion and how Newton's laws of motion can be applied to real-life situations. Students then apply those same principles to studying the solar system with a particular area of study on the earth-sun-moon relationship. The life sciences look at how energy flows through and to different organisms. Ideas include photosynthesis and cellular respiration. 8th grade science culminates in a study of the different body systems and how their functions are interrelated. Students will collect data and use critical thinking skills to draw scientific conclusions.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE: Physical Science is a one-semester introductory course to scientific principles with specific focus on physics and chemistry concepts. This course will present an overview of the definition of science, writing scientific conclusions, and scientific careers. Foundational science skills such as scientific notation and dimensional analysis will be reviewed in preparation for the SAT, and integrated within the content of physics while learning about forces and motion. Foundational chemistry concepts such as the structure of an atom, properties of matter, and the periodic table will also be reviewed.

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Science

ASTRONOMY: This course focuses on the study of the Earth's structure, processes, and place within the universe. Topics covered include structure of the Earth, surface features, geologic time, the atmosphere, the solar system, Earth-moon system, and the life cycle of stars. Throughout the semester students will explore these topics through readings, laboratories, videos, and projects.

Prerequisite: Physical Science

BIOLOGY: Biology is designed to give students an understanding of the broad principles involved in the science of life. Students will have the opportunity to study topics such as ecology, cells, genetics, and the origins of life. Students explore these topics through classroom discussions, demonstrations, and inquiry-based laboratory activities.

CHEMISTRY: Chemistry is designed to give students a basic understanding of the broad principles involved in inorganic chemistry. Students will explore these topics through classroom discussions, demonstrations, and laboratory activities. Topics include the structure and composition of atoms, the periodic table, thermochemistry, behavior of gases, and interactions between different types of chemicals.

PHYSICS: Physics is a two-semester course designed to provide students with an understanding of the natural forces at work in the world. Some of the topics covered include motion, forces, energy, wave behavior, light, and optics. Students will be involved in lab work and projects along with typical class work.

Prerequisites: Previous or current enrollment in Algebra 2

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY: Anatomy is a two-semester course that takes an in-depth look at the structure and systems of the wonderful bodies God made for us. The course covers an introduction to the body and cell function and then looks at different systems in the body. Systems covered include, but are not limited to, the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular, and respiratory systems. Students will have the opportunity to learn through readings, videos, lecture, models, activities, and projects.

Prerequisite: Biology

AP BIOLOGY: AP Biology is a year-long course equivalent to a college-level introductory biology course. This class includes a series of labs and lectures through which students will learn about the theories and mechanisms of evolution, the inner workings of the cell, biological systems, and ecology. AP Biology offers students the opportunity to earn college credit by taking the AP exam at the end of the year.

Prerequisites: Biology, previous or current enrollment in Chemistry & Pre-Calculus.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE: This course explores marine environments, natural cycles, interdependence in the ocean, pollution, and conservation. We will learn about specific habitats, nutrient cycles, food relationships, symbiotic relationships and much more. Students will analyze the impact of humans in relation to pollution and conservation in the ocean as well as get to learn about specific marine organisms.

JOURNALISM (Life Science in the Movies): This course is designed to give students the chance to explore how the sciences are presented in film. We will explore questions such as the following: Does the film industry present science accurately? Is there a hidden agenda in a particular film? How should we properly steward God's Creation? We will watch films relating to

medicine, the environment, technology, and space. Students will discuss and reflect on the themes presented in the films through discussions, worksheets, reflections, research assignments, projects, and quizzes.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The goal of the Social Studies curriculum is to prepare Christian citizens to serve in the world and to see the unfolding of God's plan for the world and our role in that plan. The study of World History gives a diverse view of culture; the study of Civics, Economics, and United States History gives students knowledge and thinking skills to see and understand their responsibility as American citizens. The study of Current Events and Psychology gives students the opportunity to analyze ourselves and community.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7: This year long class will study, analyze, and compare the major ancient civilizations. Starting with a study on the basics of historical study and analyzing the first prehistoric peoples, students will learn the geography, culture, and development of ancient Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Indian, Chinese, Greek, and Roman civilizations.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8: This intro to U.S. History class covers pre-Columbian civilizations through Reconstruction.

WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY: This course analyzes the global story of change from medieval through modern history. Through an analysis of key people, movements, events, technologies, and discoveries, students will understand how our world has developed over time into what it has become today.

CIVICS: The focus of this one-semester course is to prepare students to participate in exercising their political responsibilities as thoughtful and informed citizens. Civics provides a basis for understanding the rights and responsibilities for being an American citizen and a framework for competent and responsible participation. Emphasis is placed on the historical development of government and political systems, and the importance of the rule of law; the United States Constitution; Federal, State and local government structure; and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Prerequisite - U.S. History

US HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY: In studying the political, social, and cultural history of the United States, students are encouraged to grapple with the realities of living in a free society. The two semester class covers U.S. History from Reconstruction to the War on Terror.

Prerequisite - World History

CURRENT EVENTS: The purpose of this course will be to help students develop a clearer understanding of local, national, and global current events and issues. Emphasis will be on the most contemporary issues, as students learn how to stay updated on current events and issues

and consider an appropriate Biblical response to them. This class will be offered every other year.

Prerequisite - World History, U.S. History, Civics, Economics

Psychology- In this one semester course, students are introduced to the scientific method and the core ideas and theories of psychology. As a result, students gain an understanding of the complexities and diversity of human thought and behavior. Emphasis is placed on human behavior, the brain, human development, cognition, and memory. This class will be offered every other year.

Prerequisite- World History, U.S. History, Civics, Economics

ECONOMICS: This course will help students gain a deeper understanding of basic economic concepts and the role they play as Christian citizens in the U.S. economy. Economics will give students an idea what a college intro to economics class might cover.

Prerequisite - U.S. History

APUSH: Advanced Placement United States History is designed to give college level classroom experience and to prepare students for the A.P. test given in May. To that end, students will work on developing skills in historical analysis and evaluation.

Prerequisite – sophomores or older who have earned a B+ or higher in their most recent history and English classes with a recommendation from those teachers.

AP American Government and Politics- AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project

Prerequisites- Juniors or older who have earned a B+ or higher in their most recent history and English classes with a recommendation from those teachers.

WORLD LANGUAGE

By learning the language of another culture, we can begin to break down a barrier between others and ourselves, which in turn can lead to respecting others, to understanding them and to supporting them. Improving relationships between peoples should be among our goals as Christians, and an attempt to achieve this can be made through communication with our neighbors. In all courses, students will be exposed to other cultures through various activities and attention to current events.

SPANISH 1: This course introduces students to oral and written Spanish. Students memorize vocabulary and grammatical rules and develop the ability to conjugate verbs in the present and preterite tenses. They will be introduced to oral application of the vocabulary and grammar, along with some reading and writing in Spanish.

SPANISH 2: In this course, students will continue to memorize vocabulary and learn more grammatical rules. Besides learning added verbs in the present and preterite, the students will learn to conjugate verbs in the imperfect tense and to make formal and informal commands. Oral and written work will be used to improve the use of the language.

Prerequisite: Spanish I

SPANISH 3: In this course, students will continue to memorize vocabulary and learn more grammatical rules. Additional tenses learned are conditional, future, present perfect, pluperfect, and present subjunctive. Additional oral, listening and written practice will take place.

Prerequisite: Spanish 2

SPANISH 4: In this course, students will be given a grammar review. The final tenses learned are imperfect subjunctive, present perfect subjunctive, and pluperfect subjunctive. Additional vocabulary will be learned, and various opportunities will be given to allow students to practice the oral and written language.

Prerequisite: Spanish 3

AP Spanish: In this course, students will study Spanish in the different forms of communication including speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Students will be exposed to higher forms of grammar, culture, and literature.

Prerequisite: Spanish 4 and Teacher recommendation

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES:

7TH GRADE LIFE SKILLS: This is a 1 semester class designed to introduce middle school students to different skills that they will use as they get older. This course covers ideas such as getting acclimated to teacher expectations in the Middle School, writing research papers, and how God calls us to be a faithful student. This class is designed to be hands-on and give the students different opportunities to try out the skills that they will be learning.

CHAPEL LEADERSHIP: This class is made up of the chapel planning team, whose main focus is leadership of the high school chapels and spiritual development activities at Western Michigan Christian. Students will learn leadership skills and the Scriptural foundation for the different elements of corporate worship as they plan, prepare, present, and evaluate chapels for the school year to foster the spiritual formation of all students. On occasion, the class will prepare chapels for the middle school students or assemblies for large group activities with a variety of desired goals that support a Christian educational setting. The students will also play a vital role in the spiritual development activities throughout the school year.

FRESHMAN SEMINAR: This is a one-trimester course designed to aid incoming freshmen with basic study skills and give academic support as they transition into high school. The areas that will be covered consist of knowing and utilizing learning styles, using online resources, writing effectively, study skills, note taking, time management, presenting information to a group, researching different areas, writing letters and studying for exams. This course will also allow students to have some study hall periods where they can finish up homework, projects and receive assistance.

SUCCESS SEMINAR: Success seminar is a course that helps students with learning difficulties receive assistance with homework and preparing for tests. This course is also designed to give students opportunities to work in study groups with their peers. The Educational Support Services Director must approve each student that requests to take this course. Students that will be considered for this course are students that have a current Service Plan or that are failing 3 or more classes based on test scores.

SAT PREP: This course includes thorough review of SAT Test content, including mathematics concepts, grammar rules, and reading strategies, with special emphasis on test-taking strategies that strengthen students' standardized test performance, as well as identification of learning and study styles, and time management skills. Course includes complete sample SAT tests.

YEARBOOK: In this course students will gain skills in page design, advanced publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook which records school memories and events

Muskegon Area Career Tech Center

The Muskegon Area Career Tech Center gives a variety of programs used to prepare students in 11th and 12th grades for different career paths. Students attend the Tech Center for approximately 2½ hours, Monday through Friday mornings or afternoons, and attend classes at WMC for the remainder of the day.

MACTC Programs Include:

- Allied Health Technologies
- Auto Collision/Refinishing
- Auto Service Technology
- Business Careers
- Computer Aided Design (CAD)
- Catering & Culinary Management
- Construction Trades (at building site)

- Cosmetology (at Booker Institute of Cosmetology)
- Criminal Justice
- Electrical/Computer Technologies
- Environmental/Veterinary Sciences
- Graphic Productions Technologies
- Internet, Network and Security Technologies
- Machining/Engineering Tech
- Visual Communications
- Welding Technology

For more information:

Muskegon Area Career Tech Center

200 Harvey St.

Muskegon, MI 49442

Phone: (231) 767-3600

Fax: (231) 767-2692

On the Web: MAISD Website: <<http://www.muskegon-isd.k12.mi.us/>>

- **Articulated College Credit** – Free college credit to colleges that have Articulation Agreements with the MACTC
- **Direct College Credit** – Students dual-enroll and receive a college transcript accepted at most Michigan colleges and universities
- **Academic Credit** – English, math, science and visual/performing art
- **Job Placement**

NCAA Athletic Eligibility

If you want to practice and play your freshman year at a Division I or II college, you must satisfy the requirements of NCAA Bylaw #14.3, commonly known as "Proposition 48."

To be considered a "qualifier" at a Division I college, student/athletes are required to:

- Graduate from a high school.
- Successfully complete a core curriculum of at least 16 academic courses, including four years of English, three in math (one year of algebra and one year of geometry or one year of a higher level math for which geometry is a prerequisite), two in social science, two in natural or physical science (including one laboratory class), one additional course in English, math or science, and four additional academic courses (may be taken from the already mentioned categories, foreign language or philosophy).
- Have a grade point average (GPA) and a combined score on the SAT verbal and math selection or a sum score on the ACT* based on the following index:

Core GPA and Test Score Index

Core GPA	SAT	ACT	Core GPA	SAT	ACT
3.550 & above	400	37	2.750	720	59
3.525	410	38	2.725	730	59
3.500	420	39	2.700	730	60
3.475	430	40	2.675	740-750	61
3.450	440	41	2.650	760	62
3.425	450	41	2.625	770	63
3.400	460	42	2.600	780	64
3.375	470	42	2.575	790	65
3.350	480	43	2.550	800	66
3.325	490	44	2.525	810	67
3.300	500	44	2.500	820	68
3.275	510	45	2.475	830	69
3.250	520	46	2.450	840-850	70
3.225	530	46	2.425	860	70
3.200	540	47	2.400	860	71
3.175	550	47	2.375	870	72
3.150	560	48	2.350	880	73
3.125	570	49	2.325	890	74
3.100	580	49	2.300	900	75
3.075	590	50	2.275	910	76
3.050	600	50	2.250	920	77
3.025	610	51	2.225	930	78
3.000	620	52	2.200	940	79
2.975	630	52	2.175	950	80
2.950	640	53	2.150	960	80
2.925	650	53	2.125	960	81
2.900	660	54	2.100	970	82
2.875	670	55	2.075	980	83
2.850	680	56	2.050	990	84
2.825	690	56	2.025	1000	85
2.800	700	57	2.000	1010	86
2.775	710	58			

*ACT Score is a **sum** of English, Math, Reading and Science scores.

To be eligible for a Division II college, student/athletes must:

- Graduate from high school.
- Have a GPA of 2.000 based on a core curriculum of 16 academic courses including three years of English, two in math, two in social sciences, two in natural or physical science, three additional courses in English, math or science, and four additional academic courses (may be taken from the already mentioned categories, foreign language or philosophy).
- Have a combined score of 820 on the SAT verbal and math sections or a sum score of 68 on the ACT.