

## Secondary School Course Offerings 2022-2023

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### GRADES 7-12

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*All of our classrooms have multiple grades. For core-content courses (year-long classes) grades 7 & 8, 9 & 10 and 11 & 12 are together. For some trimester length long courses, grades 7-12 are together.*

### BIBLE COURSES:

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Our Bible courses are intentionally scaffolded from grade-level to grade-level, providing students with a foundational understanding of the Bible in grades 7-10, and building application for living by it (application) and knowing how to use it to navigate the world in grades 11-12.

**The Best Storybook Ever (Grades 7 & 8):** Students will engage in studying the Bible to understand the Bible as a complete story; connecting the dots to better understand the character of God, the history of His people and the future hope that is affirmed by both the Old & New Testaments.

**New Testament Survey (Grades 9 & 10):** Students will engage in studying the Bible to understand the cultural landscape of the disciples and the teachings of Jesus in order to examine each Gospel (Mathew, Mark, Luke & John) for its unique but unifying message salvation, grace, truth and love.

**The Pauline Epistles (Grades 11 & 12):** Students will engage in studying the Bible to understand the cultural landscape of the churches to whom Paul writes his letters and how to apply those teachings to daily life and understanding our current cultural landscape and how to be “in the world but not of it.” They will examine the “arguments” Paul presents and approach topics of today using Scripture as the foundation of understanding truth and love and the call to discipleship and righteous living.

### COMMUNICATION ARTS & LITERATURE COURSES:

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Our Communication Arts & Literature courses (ELA) are intentionally scaffolded from grade-level to grade-level, training students to learn to write well, think clearly, and express themselves eloquently and persuasively. They begin with the basics—rewriting a paragraph—and continue all the way into advanced creative and essay writing. Some of the skills students will gain in these classes include: outlining and summarizing, generating cohesive paragraphs, creating stories and developing essays based on research and literary analysis, as well as applying these same principles to public speaking.

**American Literature (Grades 9-12):** This class is a survey course of American short



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stories, novels, historical documents, and speeches. The curriculum focuses on the following skills and learning experiences: *Reading Reflection & Response*: Students will reflect upon and respond to print and non-print texts. *Research*: Students will conduct research and analyze text in order to inform an audience. *Critical Reading & Evaluation*: Students will use critical thinking skills to analyze and evaluate text structures and develop and support arguments. *Analysis*: Students will analyze text to gain meaning and synthesize ideas. Students will also exercise organization, presentation, and research skills in both individual and group settings. Grammar, vocabulary, writing mechanics, and literary elements will also be covered on a regular basis.

### **Understanding Non-Fiction Texts:**

**Biographies & Periodicals** (Grades 7 & 8 and 9 & 10): This is a two-part class: combining literature studies and writing. Students will engage in analyzing the purpose, style and audiences of non-fiction texts and then apply the patterns they find to their own writing. Students will also exercise organization, presentation, and research skills in both individual and group settings. Grammar, vocabulary, writing mechanics, and literary elements will also be covered on a regular basis.

**Literary Analysis Writing + Short Stories** (Grades 7 & 8 and 9 & 10): This is a

two-part class combining literature study and other writings from Colonial to contemporary times. In these classes students will walk students through the steps of the inquiry process, as well as best methods in doing literary analysis and research, using short stories as the primary focus. Students will learn to support claims with evidence from the text and research, documenting each reference correctly in order to avoid plagiarism. Students will also exercise organization, presentation, inferencing analysis and research skills in both individual and group settings. Grammar, vocabulary, writing mechanics, and literary elements will also be covered on a regular basis.

### **MATHEMATICS COURSES:**

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Our mathematics classes challenge students to consider what it means to be a mathematician. As such, each has the privilege of thinking God's thoughts after him, and so in understanding mathematics more in some small way as an opportunity to get to understand our Creator more. As students make discoveries they are encouraged to consider that to work through problem sets is to also understand more about how God has created and sustains the world, making it an act of not just finding right answers but an opportunity to recognize God's order and revelation in the physical world.



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**Reveal Math Course 2 (7th grade):** Reveal Math’s vertical standards alignment is built as a progression from grades K–12 to prevent student learning gaps and ensure that proper foundations are set for the next grade level. In 7th grade topics such as 2-D and 3-D geometry, rational numbers and integers, ratios and proportional reasoning, data and probability, and linear relationships will be taught.

**Reveal Math Course 3 (8th grade):** Reveal Math’s vertical standards alignment is built as a progression from grades K–12 to prevent student learning gaps and ensure that proper foundations are set for the next grade level. In 8th grade topics such as more complex computations with integers, linear functions and applying them, an introduction to systems of linear equations, and the Pythagorean Theorem will be taught.

**Reveal Math Algebra I:** Reveal Math’s vertical standards alignment is built as a progression from grades K–12 to prevent student learning gaps and ensure that proper foundations are set for the next grade level. Algebra I topics include advanced solving of linear equations and inequalities and their systems. Students will obtain the ability to identify, graph, derive, transform and interpret linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. Students are introduced to solving polynomials using a variety of methods. Finally, they will build on their knowledge of statistics and probability.

Algebra I will be introduced to the degree necessary for meeting MN state’s graduation requirements. Students will need to achieve mastery of at least 80% of these standards in order to meet graduation requirements and be eligible for MSHSL activities.

**Reveal Math Algebra II:** Reveal Math’s vertical standards alignment is built as a progression from grades K–12 to prevent student learning gaps and ensure that proper foundations are set for the next grade level. Algebra II topics include solving equations and inequalities in one- and two-variables. They will continue to develop skills with polynomials and rational expressions. They will take a deeper dive into identifying, graphing, interpreting and proving non-linear functions. They will also build nonlinear functions that model real-world situations. Students are introduced to trigonometric functions, equations, and inequalities and also the unit circle. Finally, they will build on their knowledge of statistics and probability.

Algebra I will be introduced to the degree necessary for meeting MN state’s graduation requirements. Students will need to achieve mastery of at least 80% of these standards in order to meet graduation requirements and be eligible for MSHSL activities.

### SCIENCE COURSES:

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Students will engage in learning activities that help each to not only understand the content and systems of science, but also the magnificence of the intricate designs put in place by Creator God. Using both scientific methods and biblical foundations, students will learn to understand the world around them and explain the processes and systems by which scientists examine and draw conclusions about the past, present and future.

**Intro to Chemistry & Biology (7 & 8 and 9 & 10):** Students will examine God’s creation starting with the building blocks of matter and living things. Students will learn how atoms and molecules provide the basis for understanding matter. Students will gain knowledge of how all living organisms are composed of cells and how cells carry out the many functions needed to sustain life. God’s order will be evident as students learn how energy flows and matter is recycled throughout an ecosystem. Students will be asked to examine how humans interact with and can change the environment for the benefit or detriment of humanity. Understanding intelligent design and being good stewards of God’s creation are emphasized throughout the course.

**Introduction to Organic and Biochemistry (Grades 11 & 12, *can be taken for PSEO credit*):** This course provides an understanding of the principles of organic chemistry, biochemistry and

biotechnology. Topics covered include naming and drawing simple organic compounds, understanding functional groups and basic organic reactions. It also explores common biochemicals, metabolic pathways and biotechnology such as DNA fingerprinting. Basic laboratory techniques and practices are included in this experience.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES:**

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Students will engage in study of events and people from history using the historical inquiry is a process in which multiple sources and different kinds of historical evidence are analyzed to draw conclusions about how and why things happened in the past.

**World Geography/Post WWII World History (Grades 7 & 8):** Students will examine the various geographic regions of the world including North America, Latin America, Europe and Russia, Southwest Asia and North Africa, East Asia and Southeast Asia, South Asia and Central Asia, Africa south of the Sahara and Australia/Oceania. Emphasis will be placed on how humans interact with their environment and how the geography of an area shapes its population, economic activity, and the cultural characteristics of its people. With a good understanding of the world’s physical and human geography, students will examine the history of the



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world post-WWII and our present era of increasing globalization. Students will be challenged to think about their role as Christians in our world and how they can best influence people for Christ at this time in history.

### **US History (Grades 9-12):**

This class is an overview of the history of the United States, surveying the major events and turning points of U.S. history. Students will analyze primary sources and carefully research events to gain a clearer understanding of the factors (events, people and Christianity) that have shaped U.S. history, especially as they relate to U.S. democracy, the effects of territorial expansion, the Civil War, the rise of industrialization, economic trends and the connections between culture and government.

### **LIFE & LEARNING SKILLS:**

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**Technology & Study Skills (Grades 7 & 8, 9 & 10, 11):** In this class students will spend  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the time working on keyboarding,  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the time working on the Aleks math program, a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the time completing homework and the final  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the block learning how to study for tests, write papers and create systems that aid them in completing homework on time. Other topics covered will include online safety, digital etiquette, cyber bullying, appropriate

use, protecting your online reputation, social networking, plagiarism, copyright and fair use, how to conduct effective searches, how to evaluate sites for accuracy and bias, as well as computer and Internet History. The second half of class will run as a study hall for students to put into practice the study skills they are learning.

### **SINGLE TRIMESTER ELECTIVE COURSES:**

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**Car Care Program** (selected students Grades 7-12): **[Description TBA]**

**College & Career Planning I** (Grades 7 & 8): Students will take inventories, surveys and seek the input of the people around them, along with praying specifically for understanding their calling, in order to create a mission, purpose and vision statement to guide them toward their next steps. In this class students will take the time to understand their God-given design and natural talents and make a plan for how to use them in both a vocation and in the ministry or volunteer work in the present and future. **(3rd Trimester)**

**College & Career Planning II** (Grades 9 & 10 ): Students will take inventories, surveys and seek the input of the people around them, along with praying specifically for understanding their calling, in order to create a mission, purpose and vision



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statement to guide them toward their next steps. In this class students will take the time to understand their God-given design and natural talents and make a plan for how to use them in both a vocation and in the ministry or volunteer work in the present and future. **(1st Trimester)**

**College & Career Planning III** (Grades 11 & 12 ): Students will take inventories, surveys and seek the input of the people around them, along with praying specifically for understanding their calling, in order to create a mission, purpose and vision statement to guide them toward their next steps. In this class students will take the time to understand their God-given design and natural talents and make a plan for how to use them in both a vocation and in the ministry or volunteer work in the present and future. **(2nd Trimester)**

**Health** (Grades 9 & 10): Students will engage with content from a Biblical worldview to examine the many dimensions of health and wellness. Students will develop necessary skills needed in confronting difficult situations, learning the role of acting knowledge gained from science and wisdom gained from the Bible and in partnership with the Holy Spirit. By the end of the course students will understand health prevention and promotion techniques that will aid them in maintaining a healthy lifestyle based on the identity set in them by God at the beginning of time.

### **(2nd Trimester)**

**Mural Art** (selected students Grades 7-12): We are excited to be able to impact our community in a positive way through art. In this course students will learn the elements of design and apply them to creating murals to cover the tunnel that sits under High 29 N for the footpath that takes people to the trail. We have an artist lined up but are in need of a teacher, so spread the word and help us find an art teacher to make this vision a reality.

**Photography** (Grades 7-12, combined): This course is the perfect introduction to digital photography. Students will learn how to use exposure, F/stops, shutter speeds, lighting techniques, white balance, and depth of field to create powerful and compelling images in and out of the studio. It is designed for students who have never used a DSLR camera. Students are encouraged to bring their own DSLR camera, but there are a few on campus for those who do not have one. Discursive reflection and implementing the “design process” to execute a creative ideas with thoughtfulness, intentionality and as a means to demonstrate the creativity of God found in humanity’s expressions through photography. **(2nd Trimester)**

**Team Sports** (Grades 7-12, combined): The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent



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in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. Through participation in several sports, students will gain the knowledge necessary to become an educated participant and spectator. The involvement in specific sports will provide an atmosphere that is enjoyable to the participants, promotes cooperation among peers and develops an appreciation for the degree of fitness necessary to participate. **(3rd Trimester)**

### Other Elective Courses That May Be Offered

- Spanish 1 (online)
- Engineer Design
- Journalism
- Forensics

