

Great Plains Lutheran High School
Living Christianity
2010-11

Course Length: Full Year

Frequency: M-F

Teacher: Rev. Nathanael Seelow

Credit: 1 hour

Grade Level: 11

Required or Elective: Required

Course Description:

After studying the life of Christ in their sophomore year, students will begin to take a look at the formation of the early Christian church. Studying the book of Acts, students will follow the steps of Peter, John, Paul, and the other apostles as the message of Christ spreads throughout the world. Using Paul's letters to churches in Asia and Europe, the students will also begin to study in-depth the doctrines of the Christian church. They will also apply the principles found within the letters of the apostles to their own lives as young Christians.

Course Objectives:

The student will:

- Become familiar with and take to heart the culture and context in which the early church began;
- Realize the rapid spread of this new message across Asia Minor and southern Europe by studying Paul's missionary journeys;
- Become knowledgeable with Treasured Bible Portions—portions of the Bible which can significantly apply to the students life;
- Continue to build on the base of memory passages which was learned in the LES or Sunday School the student attended;
- Evaluate and analyze contemporary issues in a teenager's life using what God says in his Word;
- Be immersed into the forming of the modern Lutheran church by studying the era of Modern American Lutheranism.

Class Method:

This course will employ a variety of teaching principles, including class participation, group work, student presentations, and lecture format. Lessons may include PowerPoint, YouTube or other media. The students may be given daily assignments for further study and application of the lesson. The students will study and memorize maps of Paul's missionary travels for *NT 3: Paul's First Two Journeys and Letters* and *NT 4: Paul's Third Journey and Letters*. During some units, students will be assigned a 2-3 page essay/report on a topic pertinent to the unit at hand. A book report/term paper based on the NPH series *People's Bible Teachings* will be assigned toward the beginning of the 2nd semester.

This class will also make use of a classroom social network, *Schoology*. Students will be expected to utilize and familiarize themselves with this site, as well as participate in online discussions, blogs, assessments, and journals.

Course Evaluation:

Students will be evaluated on information gained during general class discussions, notes, and application of the information presented. These evaluations will be employed by using periodic quizzes, tests, and assessments of learning. Daily work and class participation will be considered for marked grades as well. The final exam of each semester is comprehensive from the information, lessons, and memory work included in the entire semester.

It is understood that students come to class prepared to participate. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grade based on classroom preparation and participation.

Grades will be calculated using a straight points system. The grading scale is based on the scale provided in the GPLHS handbook.

Course Materials:

- NIV Bible (A Concordia Self-Study Bible® is preferred but is not required.)
- Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal
- Luther's Small Catechism
- The Christlight® curriculum, published by Northwestern Publishing House, will be used as the course outline and notes. The instructor will also be responsible for providing the students with maps and other resource information.

Course Structure:*Semester 1:*

- NT 2: Congregation at Jerusalem
- NT 3: Paul's First Two Journeys and Letters
- NT 4: Paul's Third Journey and Letters
- GEN 2: Treasured Bible Portions 2
- LET 1: Galatians

Semester 2:

- LET 1 *cont'd*: Galatians
- COR A: Christian Marriage
- COR B: Spiritual Gifts
- COR C: Church Membership
- COR D: Christian Citizenship
- WOR 1: Worship
- HIS 3: American Lutheranism

Pastor Nathanael P. Seelow
Phone: (605) 886-0672 Ext. 130
Email: nseelow@gplhs.org

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