



Course of Study

2021-2022

The mission of GPLHS is to provide a Christ-centered education to assist families in nurturing students as lifelong disciples of Christ.

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2021-22 Course Selection Process

- You have received a *GPL Course Selection* document for the grade level you will be entering next year and your remaining years at Great Plains Lutheran High School. Use these to indicate your plans for next year and future plans for any remaining years you have at GPL.
- Reference the General Course of Study section to understand which courses are required and which you may take as electives.
- If you plan to take Band and Celebration during first period, please indicate both of these in the designated space.
- Juniors and seniors, you now have access to six semesters of English courses, and you are required to take four of them (two per year). You may take all six semesters if you wish to exceed the graduation requirements for English.
- If you plan to take an online or dual-credit course, you are encouraged to take a study hall designated for your work on this course.
- If you wish to take an NTHS course (or possibly two), you will need to clear 2nd & 3rd periods (NTHS 1st block) and/or 8th & 9th periods (NTHS 4th block). Due to class size limits at NTHS, you may not get your first NTHS course choice, so be sure to choose an alternative. Seniors will get priority in cases where demand for an NTHS class exceeds available space.
- Once you have completed your planned class schedule for the 2021-22 school year:
 - Ask your class advisor (homeroom teacher) to sign and date the document.
 - Ask your parent/guardian to sign and date the document.
 - Return the signed document to your class advisor by **Tuesday, February 16**.

Please note:

- You may be scheduled for a required course in a class period other than the one you requested in order to balance sections.
- All students are eligible to sign up for online elective courses. See the Online and Dual-Credit Course Information section for more information.
- Juniors and seniors, you are eligible to take dual-credit elective courses in which you earn high school and college credit at the same time. See the Online and Dual-Credit Course Information document for more information.
- There are user fees associated with taking Northeast Technical High School (NTHS), online, and dual-credit courses.

General Course of Study

Freshman – Grade 9

- **Required:** Religion 9, English 9, Math (Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Geometry), Biology, Music, Health/World Geography (back to back semesters), High School 101
- **Electives:** Band, Spanish, online courses

Sophomore – Grade 10

- **Required:** Religion 10, English 10 (includes 1 semester of speech), Math (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2), Physical Science, World History, Physical Education
- **Electives:** Band, Celebration Choir, Spanish, Art, FACS, Strength & Conditioning, Northeast Technical High School courses, online courses

Junior – Grade 11

- **Required:** Religion 11, English (minimum two semesters of American Literature S1, American Literature S2, British Literature S1, British Literature S2, World Literature S1, and American Minority Writers S2), American History, Math (Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Consumer Math), Science
- **Electives:** Band, Celebration Choir, Spanish, Art, Physics or Chemistry, additional English classes, Anatomy/Physiology or Earth Science, Accounting, Intro to Business, FACS, Strength & Conditioning, Northeast Technical High School courses, online courses, dual-credit courses

Senior – Grade 12

- **Required:** Religion 12, English 12 (minimum two semesters of American Literature S1, American Literature S2, British Literature S1, British Literature S2, World Literature S1, and American Minority Writers S2), American Government/Personal Finance (back to back semesters)
- **Electives:** Band, Celebration Choir, Spanish, Art, Math (Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Consumer Math), Physics or Chemistry, additional English classes, Anatomy/Physiology or Earth Science, Accounting, Intro to Business, FACS, Strength & Conditioning, Intro to Psychology, College 101, Northeast Technical High School courses, online courses, dual-credit courses

NOTES:

- Under normal circumstances, students must take the classes required for graduation here at GPL where the instruction is Christ-centered. Students may take similar classes online as electives, not as required classes. An exception is foreign language. Students who wish to take a language other than Spanish must do so through South Dakota Virtual School (SDVS).
- GPL offers seven different mathematics courses. Students will be placed according to their ability.
- Physics & Chemistry and Anatomy/Physiology & Earth Science are offered in alternating

years.

- Earth science is a non-math-intensive class intended to be taken as a third science class by students not planning to attend four-year college.
- Science prerequisites: Algebra 1 for Chemistry, Algebra 2 for Physics
- Juniors and seniors have access to six semesters of English classes, of which they are required to take four. They may take all six if they wish to do so.
- International students may take ESL classes and Intro to Christianity as needed.
- The Advanced Career Endorsement can be earned at GPL by taking Intro. to Business and Accounting. It can also be earned in various career clusters at Northeast Technical High School (NTHS).
- Foreign language is not required for 4-year college entrance in South Dakota; a CTE credit can serve as a substitute. You may want to check with colleges you are considering attending about their foreign language expectations.
- Under normal circumstances, freshmen in Pre-Algebra will not be allowed to take Spanish 1. We have found that this usually does not work well.
- An NTHS class labeled PLTW is a part of the Project Lead the Way program.
- Students may not take American Government/Personal Finance before their senior year.

Online and Dual-Credit Course Information

Great Plains Lutheran High School offers online and dual-credit elective courses, including advanced placement (AP) courses, from various providers.

- South Dakota Virtual School (www.sdvs.k12.sd.us) is a provider of online courses connected with South Dakota schools. Students who wish to take a foreign language other than Spanish and receive high school credit for it must do so through SDVS.
- North Dakota Center for Distance Education (www.ndcde.org) is an online class service provider based in North Dakota. Students may not take foreign languages for high school credit through NDCDE.
- Area Lutheran High School Online (www.alhso.org) offers online courses taught by educators certified to teach in Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod schools. Students may not take foreign languages for high school credit through ALHSO.
- SDMyLife (www.SDMyLife.com) has a large amount of information on dual-credit course offerings by the South Dakota University system.
- South Dakota Board of Regents reduced tuition dual-credit (<https://www.sdbor.edu/administrative-offices/academics/ReducedTuitionDualCredit/Pages/default.aspx>)

Parents and students should note:

- Online courses are designed for students who have the self-discipline to do independent coursework at a rigorous pace and communicate proactively with the online teacher.
- For juniors and seniors, dual-credit courses are a great way to earn college credit at a reduced cost. Keep in mind that the courses have college-level expectations.

- Online and dual-credit courses often last one semester. Students should plan to take an online or dual-credit course both semesters to ensure the GPL minimum credit load of 3.25 credits per semester.
- Online and dual-credit courses have additional fees:
 - Online courses typically cost between \$200 - \$300 per semester.
 - Dual credit courses have an additional cost of \$50 - \$75 per credit.

Students electing to take an online or dual credit course need to follow these steps:

1. Inform your academic advisor of your intent to take online or dual-credit courses.
2. Talk to your parents/guardians about taking online or dual-credit courses.
3. Schedule a time to meet with Mrs. Jaeger so she can assist you with the registration process.
4. Complete all paperwork, including parent/guardian signatures promptly.
5. Turn in all completed paperwork to Mrs. Jayne Jaeger.

Please contact Mrs. Jayne Jaeger, jjaege@gplhs.org, for additional information about online and dual-credit courses.

High School Diploma Requirements

Subject	Within Required Units, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing 0.5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including 0.5 American Literature)	4
Math	1 unit Algebra 1	3
Science	1 unit Biology (<i>9th grade requirement</i>) <i>Note: 10th grade students take Physical Science.</i>	3
Social Studies	1 unit American History 0.5 unit American Government <i>Note: World History offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	3
Fine Arts	<i>Note: 9th grade students take 1 unit of music.</i>	1
Physical Education	<i>Note: P.E. offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	0.5
Health		0.5
Personal Finance		0.5
Approved CTE or World Language or Capstone Experience		1
Electives	<i>Note: All students take 1 unit of Religion for each year they are enrolled at GPL.</i>	5.5
TOTAL		22

Note: Under normal circumstances, GPL students are required to take 6.5 units per year (3.25 per semester). This means that under normal circumstances, GPL students will exceed the South Dakota graduation requirements.

Advanced Endorsement

The Advanced Endorsement indicates a student has pursued coursework consistent with entrance requirements for postsecondary education at a university.

Subject	Within Required Units, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing 0.5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including 0.5 American Literature)	4
Math	1 unit Algebra 1 1 unit Geometry 1 unit Algebra 2	3
Science	1 unit Biology (<i>9th grade requirement</i>) 2 units other physical sciences (Physical Science, Chemistry, Physics) <i>Note: 10th grade students take Physical Science.</i>	3
Social Studies	1 unit American History 0.5 unit American Government <i>Note: World History offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	3
Fine Arts	<i>Note: 9th grade students take 1 unit of music.</i>	1
Physical Education	<i>Note: P.E. offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	0.5
Health		0.5
Personal Finance		0.5
Approved CTE or World Language or Capstone Experience		1
Electives	<i>Note: All students take 1 unit of Religion for each year they are enrolled at GPL.</i>	5.5
TOTAL		22

Note: Under normal circumstances, GPL students are required to take 6.5 units per year (3.25 per semester). This means that under normal circumstances, GPL students will exceed the South Dakota graduation requirements.

Advanced Career Endorsement

The Advanced Career Endorsement indicates a student has career experience in a concentrated area, based on academic and/or workplace experience and a related credential.

Subject	Within Required Units, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1 unit Writing 0.5 unit Speech 1 unit Literature (including 0.5 American Literature)	4
Math	1 unit Algebra 1	3
Science	1 unit Biology (<i>9th grade requirement</i>) <i>Note: 10th grade students take Physical Science.</i>	3
Social Studies	1 unit American History 0.5 unit American Government <i>Note: World History offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	3
Fine Arts	<i>Note: 9th grade students take 1 unit of music.</i>	1
Physical Education	<i>Note: P.E. offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	0.5
Health		0.5
Personal Finance		0.5
Career Focus	2 units of the following or a combination of the two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved CTE units from the same career cluster OR • Capstone experience units <p style="text-align: center;">AND</p> Attainment of an industry-recognized credential OR National Career Readiness Certificate of Silver or higher	2+
Electives	<i>Note: All students take 1 unit of Religion for each year they are enrolled at GPL.</i>	4.5
TOTAL		22

Note: Under normal circumstances, GPL students are required to take 6.5 units per year (3.25 per semester). This means that under normal circumstances, GPL students will exceed the South Dakota graduation requirements.

Advanced Honors Endorsement

The Advanced Honors Endorsement indicates a student has pursued advanced rigorous, academic coursework consistent with §13-55-3.1 (high school course requirements for opportunity scholarship eligibility). All high school coursework must be completed with a C or higher.

Subject	Within Required Units, Must Include:	Total Units Required
English	1.5 unit Writing 0.5 unit Speech 1.5 units Literature (including 0.5 American Lit.) 0.5 unit language arts elective	4
Math	1 unit Algebra 1 1 unit Geometry 1 unit Algebra 2 1 unit Advanced Mathematics See https://sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html	4
Science	1 unit Biology (<i>9th grade requirement</i>) 1 unit Physical Science (<i>10th grade requirement</i>) 1 unit Chemistry or Physics 1 unit science elective <i>Chemistry, Physics or Anatomy/Physiology</i>	4
Social Studies	1 unit American History 0.5 unit World History 0.5 unit American Government 0.5 unit Geography <i>Note: World History offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	3
Fine Arts	<i>Note: 9th grade students take 1 unit of music.</i>	1
Physical Education	<i>Note: P.E. offered at GPL is 1 unit.</i>	0.5
Health		0.5
Personal Finance		0.5
Approved CTE or World Language	2 units of either of the following or a combination of the two: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved CTE courses OR • Modern or Classical Language (including U.S. Sign Language); units must be in the same language 	2
Electives	<i>Note: All students take 1 unit of Religion for each year they are enrolled at GPL.</i>	2.5
TOTAL		22

Note: Under normal circumstances, GPL students are required to take 6.5 units per year (3.25 per semester). This means that under normal circumstances, GPL students will exceed the South Dakota graduation requirements.

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

Introduction to Business (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: Introduction to Business is a course where the foundational understanding of business is laid. Students will learn the background knowledge they need to have a strong grasp of what is going on in the business world. They will learn about business basics, types of businesses, management strategies, handling employees, marketing and pricing, and running a business.</p>			

Accounting (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: The aim of the course is to provide an understanding of the flow of a business transaction through the accounting cycle, to teach the necessity for neat and accurate records, and to provide background instruction for advanced study in business administration or accounting. Students will maintain accounting and payroll records as well as learn how to deal with various business principles such as maintaining an inventory and calculating depreciation.</p>			

English Language Arts

English 9 (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
<p>Description: Recognizing the blessings and importance to God's kingdom of clear written communication, self reflection, and empathy, this class strives to grow these skills through writing a research paper and the study of grammar, fiction (various novels and short stories), non-fiction, and drama (including Shakespeare).</p>			

English 10 (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10
<p>Description: Students will study three distinct types of composition: environmental, autobiographical, and rhetorical. They will examine the selected readings not only through a literary and academic lens, but through a Christian lens as well. The second half of the year focuses entirely on speech communication. Through a variety of projects, prompts, and other tasks, students will sharpen and hone their skills as communicators - speaking, listening, and responding to others.</p>			

American Literature (S1) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Various pieces of American literature will be studied, along with a 6-8 page research paper. Samples of work include <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> and <i>The Great Gatsby</i>, Transcendentalism, and 18th and 19th century poetry and prose. Smaller pieces of writing will be assigned as well.</p>			

American Literature (S2) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Various pieces of 20th and 21st century poetry and prose will be studied, along with <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, <i>Of Mice and Men</i>, and <i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>. Smaller pieces of writing will be assigned as well.</p>			

British Literature (S1) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Students will look at various topics and themes throughout the history of British Literature. Students will make arguments about texts, voice opinions in small/whole-class discussion, collaborate with others, and formally share their thoughts with everyone through projects and presentations. Students will explore British literature thematically rather than chronologically by studying the following topics: Gothic Literature and Rebellion, Epic and Tragic Heroism, and Society's Influence on the Individual. Readings will include <i>Frankenstein</i>, <i>Macbeth</i> and <i>1984</i>.</p>			

British Literature (S2) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Students will look at various topics and themes throughout the history of British Literature. Students will make arguments about texts, voice opinions in small/whole-class discussion, collaborate with others, and formally share their thoughts with everyone through projects and presentations. Students will explore British literature thematically rather than chronologically by studying the following topics: Family and Identity, Science Fiction, and Research Writing. Readings will include <i>Rebecca</i> and short science fiction selections by authors such as Douglas Adams, H.G. Wells, and Malorie Blackman.</p>			

World Literature (S1) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Students will sample literature from around the globe while also exploring how various world cultures approach topics differently. This course gives students the unique opportunity to hand-select the literature they read. After a short whole-group unit, students will choose various works of literature from a teacher-selected list. Over the course of the semester, students will have to choose literature that meets certain criteria and benchmarks. This course highlights independent reading and learning.</p>			

American Minority Writers (S2) (required 4 of 6 semesters offered)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Students will study various works of literature written by various multicultural American authors. Students will express their findings and thoughts through written projects, small/whole-class discussions, and collaboration. With a more focused approach to American literature, students will be able to hear stories from authors representing the rich cultural diversity that American literature has to offer.</p>			

Basic English (Y1)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: This course focuses on American literature and authors while also working on grammar and vocabulary. It is intended for students for whom the other junior and senior English Language Arts classes are beyond their ability.</p>			

Basic English (Y2)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: English 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: This course focuses on British Literature and authors while also working on grammar and vocabulary. It is intended for students for whom the other junior and senior English Language Arts classes are beyond their ability.</p>			

English as a Second Language (ESL) 1 (international students)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Description: This course offers an integrated, whole language look at literature, vocabulary, grammar, and phonics at a high school level. This class will prepare the student for work in the English language classrooms in both content and language. ESL 1 includes two class periods of instruction: Composition & Speech and Literature.			

English as a Second Language (ESL) 2 (international students)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: ESL 1	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
Description: This course will expand on ESL 1 and give students a more in depth study of the English language. This course will also support students in their regular English Language Arts class. If time permits, this course will also include TOFEL prep work.			

Fine Arts

Art (Y1) (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: This course will focus on European art movements and the Elements and Principles of Art. Students will work on projects that enhance the learning of the elements and principles as well as try to replicate some of the art movements.</p>			

Art (Y2) (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: This course will focus on American art movements and different types of art. Students will work on projects that enhance the learning of the elements and principles as well as try to replicate some of the art movements.</p>			

Music 9 (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
<p>Description: Students have an opportunity to explore music through listening and the study of music history and basic music theory. Music to be surveyed will include baroque, classic, romantic, twentieth century, and music of American composers. Additionally, students taking Music develop musicianship and specific performance skills through ensemble and solo singing. The chorus will be a mixed chorus, but may be divided to feature male or female choruses. Activities in this class create the development of quality repertoire in the diverse styles of choral literature appropriate in difficulty and range for the students. Instruction is designed so that students are enabled to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine and integrate music study into their worship lives and other subject areas. Music 9 provides instruction on creating, performing, conducting, listening to, and analyzing music. Students develop the ability to understand and convey the composer's intent in order to connect the performer with the audience. A limited amount of time outside of the school day may be scheduled for dress rehearsals and performances. A limited number of public performances may serve as a culmination of daily rehearsal and music goals. Students must participate in performance opportunities outside of the school day that support and extend the learning in the classroom.</p>			

Band (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: instrument proficiency	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: Those enrolled in Band will participate in the marching, pep, and concert bands. Concert Band provides students with a comprehensive study of music through concert band repertoire. This repertoire develops skills in psychomotor, cognitive and affective domains. Coursework is designed to enable students to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine and integrate music study into their worship lives and other subject areas. Ensemble and individual activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including, but not limited to: tone production, technical skills, intonation, sight reading skills, listening skills, analyzing music and studying a wide variety of styles of literature. Experiences include, but are not limited to sight reading, playing by ear, clapping and counting and performance. Students will be given the opportunity to perform a wide variety of repertoire: large</p>			

ensemble, chamber ensembles, and solos. Evaluation of music and performance is provided through adjudicated and non-adjudicated performance venues. Band is a co-curricular activity and as such requires time outside the normal school day.

Celebration Choir (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: Music or instructor approval	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: Students develop musicianship and specific performance skills through ensemble and solo singing. This is an extension of learned curricula in Music 9. The chorus will be a mixed chorus, but may be divided to feature male or female choruses. Instruction is designed to enable students to connect, examine, imagine, define, try, extend, refine, and integrate music into their worship lives and other subject areas. Celebration Choir provides instruction in creating, performing, conducting, listening to, and analyzing music. Students develop the ability to understand and convey the composer's intent in order to connect the performer with the audience. Students may have the opportunity to experience live performances by professionals during and outside of the school day. A limited amount of time, outside of the school day, may be scheduled for sectionals, dress rehearsals, and performances. A limited number of public performances may serve as a culmination of daily rehearsal and music goals. Students must participate in performance opportunities outside of the school day that support and extend the learning in the classroom.</p>			

Foreign Language

Spanish 1 (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and language learning in general. It covers cultural topics, especially holidays celebrated in Spanish-speaking countries. Students will develop basic comprehension skills in Spanish as they learn in the target language, and will begin to recognize some of the major differences between Spanish and English.</p>			

Spanish 2 (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Spanish 1	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: This course continues the development of comprehension skills in Spanish and does so through an increase in story-telling. More culturally relevant stories, as well as Biblical parables will be used to learn grammar, vocabulary, and stimulate discussion in Spanish. Students will begin to tell their own stories and talk more about their own lives in Spanish.</p>			

Advanced Spanish (Y1) (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Spanish 1 and 2	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Advanced Spanish is two-year course with a rotating curriculum, so that both students in their third and fourth years of Spanish can learn together. Advanced Spanish studies common grammar points and begins to expect more fluid output from the students. In this year the content emphasis is on reading and telling Bible stories and short stories from Latin America and the Dominican Republic. Students will also go more in depth in the target language about holidays in Spanish-speaking countries.</p>			

Advanced Spanish (Y2) (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Spanish 1 and 2	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: Advanced Spanish is a two-year course with a rotating curriculum, so that both students in their third and fourth years of Spanish can learn together. Advanced Spanish studies common grammar points and begins to expect more fluid output from the students. In this year the content emphasis is on Argentina, Chile, and Spain with a short novel from each as well as a unit of Latin American Legends.</p>			

Mathematics

Pre-Algebra (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
Description: This course provides a firm foundation in algebraic structure and methods paced for a student with little previous exposure to algebra. Included in the study are rational numbers, variables, expressions, graphing and exponents. An emphasis is placed upon logical thought in preparation for Algebra 1.			

Algebra 1 (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9, 10
Description: This course provides a firm foundation in algebraic structure and methods. Included in the study are rational numbers, variables, expressions, graphing and exponents. An emphasis is placed upon logical thought.			

Geometry (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Algebra 1	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11
Description: This mathematical discipline emphasizes precision and logic. Solid algebraic skills are assumed. Inductive and deductive reasoning are used in the study of proofs, lines, planes, angles, polygons, curves, solids, and introductory trigonometry.			

Algebra 2 (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
Description: This course is a continuation and deeper study of algebra which prepares students for Pre-Calculus. Algebraic manipulation and solution of polynomial equations as the groundwork for calculus dominate the course. Students with the ambition of attending a four-year college or university should plan to at least get through Algebra 2.			

Pre-Calculus (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Geometry, Algebra 2	Grade(s): 11, 12
Description: This course bridges algebra and calculus. It is intended to aid students interested in math or science. Functions and limits are studied as the foundation for calculus.			

AP Calculus (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus	Grade(s): 12
<p>Description: This course encompasses both differential and integral calculus. Topics include limits, derivatives, definite integrals and antiderivatives. It is intended to aid students interested in math or science.</p>			

Consumer Math (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 11,12
<p>Description: This course provides practical experiences with the math used for everyday living. Students will review basic math operations and then move into the practical math portion of the course. This practical portion provides a foundation for budgeting, banking, purchasing and other real life math situations.</p>			

Physical Education

Physical Education (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10
Description: Students will learn a variety of activities that will allow them to participate at a social or competitive level at any point in their lifetime. Students will also be challenged in a variety of fitness activities throughout the year.			

Strength and Conditioning (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
Description: Students are encouraged to develop the good habit of working out to develop their physical fitness on a daily basis. Based on a planned workout program, students are encouraged to take care of the one body God has given them through proper exercise, nutrition, and other daily choices.			

Religion

Religion 9: Old Testament (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
<p>Description: This course presents an overview of the Old Testament Scripture, noting how God's plan of salvation, made from eternity, was carried out through his chosen people Israel. The students will be encouraged to see salvation history throughout the Old Testament and God's grace in carrying out that plan in spite of sinful people. The students will also gain a deeper appreciation of the relationship between the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.</p>			

Religion 10: New Testament Gospels (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Religio 9	Grade(s): 10
<p>Description: This course is focused primarily on the life of our Savior Jesus Christ in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. In this course we look at all the things Jesus did for us while he was on this earth. We cover his life from womb to tomb and stop along the way at various miracles and other lessons he teaches us through his saving Word.</p>			

Religion 11: New Testament Epistles (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Religion 9 and 10	Grade(s): 11
<p>Description: This course primarily focuses on New Testament accounts of the Apostle Paul - his journeys and written epistles. Students will see that doctrinal themes written by Paul still apply to Christians today. There is also a big emphasis on talking about current events and big life topics that high school students want to discuss. Juniors are starting to see their life after high school and want to be prepared for life as a Christian adult in today's world.</p>			

Religion 12: Living Christianity (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Religion 10 and 11	Grade(s): 12
<p>Description: This course teaches and applies the practical nature of living as a Christian in our world today. Students learn the Biblical truths and importance of Christian life planning; how to explain the origin of the Scriptures we have in our hands today; the timely truths, comforts and applications of the general letters of the New Testament; what it means to be a confessional, Christian evangelist; and how to contend for the true, saving faith when faced with the challenge of alternative denominational doctrines and beliefs.</p>			

Introduction to Christianity (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9, 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: This course serves as an introduction to the religion curriculum as well as an introduction to the mission and purpose of God's people and Great Plains Lutheran High School. It will present</p>			

God's plan of salvation as revealed in the Bible. Students will learn from elementary Bible history and catechetical lessons the absolute certainty of the things taught and believed by Christians and that Jesus Christ is the Savior of all people.

Science

Health (required)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
Description: Health is a one-semester survey course reviewing and reinforcing healthy lifestyle choices and behaviors which give glory and honor to God. Students will discover and apply God's wisdom and directives related to our health.			

Biology (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
Description: Plants, animals, fungi, moneran, protists, and humans are studied forms of life with specific needs and capabilities to carry out God's commands. The diversity of life is studied as a correlation of unifying and interdependent mechanisms. This course revolves around the themes defining living things.			

Physical Science (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10
Description: Science is the study of God's creation. The more we learn about the world around us, the more we marvel at God's power and goodness. Physical Science discusses the matter of creation and how it uses energy in physical and chemical reactions.			

Chemistry (elective, even years)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Biology, Physical Science, Algebra 1	Grade(s): 11, 12
Description: This course is central to science as the study of matter itself. Chemistry studies the basic structures of living and nonliving things as designed by our Creator God. Theories of matter, atomic structure, and energy will be studied from a historical perspective and connected to students' everyday life.			

Physics (elective, odd years)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Biology, Physical Science, Algebra 2 (completed or current)	Grade(s): 11, 12
Description: This course consists of a study of force, motion, energy, light, electricity, heat, sound, magnetism with lessons emphasizing given concepts, laboratory work, activities, and demonstrations.			

Human Anatomy and Physiology (elective, odd years)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Biology, Physical Science	Grade(s): 11, 12
<p>Description: This course covers the structures and functions of the human body. Students will learn about the various body systems, how they function together and separately, as well as disorders and problems that arise. This course will help students focus on and appreciate the complexity and beauty of the pinnacle of God's creation.</p>			

Earth Science (elective, even years)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: Biology, Physical Science	Grade(s): 11,12
<p>Description: This course will cover a large area of content over the course of two semesters. There are five major areas of specialization included in this course: astronomy, meteorology, geology, oceanography, and environmental science. Topics covered in this class will help students to better appreciate the wonderful and complex world that God created and better understand their role in helping it to flourish. This course is intended for students for whom math is a struggle.</p>			

Social Sciences

World Geography (required)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 9
<p>Description: This course is more than just looking at maps and memorizing facts. Students look at various topics about geography and how other countries around the world practice topics such as religion, athletics, culture, and music. Students also study maps to gain awareness of the world in which they live.</p>			

World History (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10
<p>Description: This course focuses on God’s hand in impacting the world from the time of Creation through World War 2. History is truly “HIS story.” Students will see the differences in world cultures, religious beliefs and practices, government styles, and ways of living in different parts of the world at different times.</p>			

American History (required)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 11
<p>Description: American History is a two semester course that will focus on the historical events that helped create and shape this country into what it is today. This course will be taught with a Christ-centered perspective realizing that God controls the course of all events. This course will emphasize specific successes and failures of this country in the hopes that we learn from them. This course will move sequentially through U.S. history and will include some U.S. and world geography, government, and economic development.</p>			

American Government (required)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 12
<p>Description: This course concentrates on our civic roles in government. It will help us apply our responsibility as Christians with this government. This course will take an in-depth look at how this nation’s two party system, legislative processes, judicial processes, bureaucratic structures, and the media all play an important role in our government today.</p>			

Personal Finance (required)			
Length: semester	Credit: 0.5	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 12
<p>Description: This practical course helps students learn how to glorify God by practicing principles of sound financial stewardship and prepares them for life after high school. Topics covered include saving, budgeting, debt, life after high school, consumer awareness, bargain shopping, investing and retirement, insurance, money & relationships, careers, taxes, real estate & mortgages, and giving.</p>			

Introduction to Psychology (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 12
<p>Description: The course walks somewhat quickly through the textbook <i>Myers Psychology for AP</i> (although the course is not an AP course). About twelve units are done from this textbook. Psychology-related vocabulary is studied; some presentations are expected from the <i>Psychology Today</i> website. We also watch videos to help cement and demonstrate concepts, including those from <i>Crash Course Psychology</i> and <i>Khan Academy</i>, among others.</p>			

Family and Consumer Science (elective)			
Length: full year	Credit: 1.0	Prerequisite: none	Grade(s): 10, 11, 12
<p>Description: This course is organized into three primary themes. We will take a look at how a child develops and grows from birth to adolescence. We will learn the basics of hand sewing and mending and also complete a simple sewing machine project. Finally, we will end the year with a foods unit in which we will learn what our food is composed of and also some simple recipes that we can make for ourselves and our families.</p>			