

**Cornerstone Christian School**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Catalog**  
**For the 2019-2020 School Year**

**Art**

*Intro to Art* meets five days per week. We will focus on learning the seven elements of art (first semester) and the eight principles of design (second semester). Students will work in both 2 and 3 dimensions using both abstract and observational styles and a variety of mediums. We will also be looking at how Christian artists should create and critique art.

**Bible**

*New Testament Survey* –A study of our Lord’s earthly ministry as recorded in Matthew and John with emphasis on Christ as the substance of the Old Testament shadows, the mediator of the New Covenant, the Lord of creation, and the Savior of the world. Textbooks: *The Holy Bible; Shadow and Substance, Part II* by Greg Uttinger.

**Grammar and Composition**

*Writing & Grammar 8*- reviews the eight parts of speech, five basic sentence patterns, usage, and mechanics, and discusses grammar elements such as participles, gerunds, and infinitives. Dictionary skills, library skills, study skills, and the writing process are also part of the year's work. Writing projects include a news report, a character profile, a short fable, an informal debate script, a photo essay, and an in-class essay. Texts: *Writing and Grammar 8 (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.)* (BJUP); *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian.

**History**

*American History* begins with the discovery of the New World, taking us through how our nation was established, the special men who God used. It goes through the different eras that our country grew and changed, how we became a world power after the wars, the challenges we had in the sixties, and through our current president. *The American Republic* (BJU Press)

**Literature**

*World Literature* - A survey of World literature from ancient to modern times with particular emphasis on the history of ideas. Students will study basic literary devices, such as: character development, plot, theme, setting, and imagery. Texts: *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens; *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Lewis Stevenson, *Around the World in 80 Days* by Jules Vern, *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie; and *World Literature* (ABeka).

**Math**

*Math 8 (Pre-Algebra)* – This class gives a complete review of all arithmetic topics, broadening them to include algebraic applications and multiple strategies for problem solving. Much of the text is devoted to algebra and related topics, measurement, numbers and operations, problem solving, data analysis and probability, and geometry. The class includes graphing, scientific notation, statistics, equations with two variables, and an introduction to trigonometry. Students planning to enter the next level of math are required to take an entrance exam to assess their readiness. Text: *McGraw Hill Glencoe*.

*Algebra I (high school course)* - A study of the basic concepts of algebra, including rational and radical functions and equations, positive and negative numbers, graphing, polynomials, factoring, and linear and quadratic equations, linear inequalities, statistics and probability, and geometry. Students planning

to enter the next level of math are required to take an entrance exam to assess their readiness. Text: *McGraw Hill Glencoe*

### **Music**

*Junior High Music Ensemble* meets three days per week and focuses on vocal *and* instrumental music. Course includes Vocal/Instrumental training (instrument is student's choice or may choose vocal only), including harmony, proper vocal and instrumental technique, sight reading basics, rhythm, music theory basics. Students learn performance techniques, including the use of microphones and amplification systems. The course will also explore composition and recording techniques as time permits. Looking forward, this course provides training/foundation for high school-level Praise Band. The JH Music Ensemble will perform at school concerts and other events as available (school chapel, care home visit, etc.).

### **Physical Education**

*Boys' and Girls' P.E.*—Students will learn and practice skills for various sports, including basketball, tennis, and soccer. Students will learn flexibility and strength building techniques, and be encouraged to pursue overall fitness through the *Presidential Physical Fitness Program* conditioning and testing. There will be a heavy emphasis on teamwork and the spiritual dimension of physical fitness and athletics.

### **Science**

*Earth Science* is a new and very comprehensive curriculum for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade beginning in the 2019-20 school year. Students will study earth science, the water world, atmosphere, and beginning astronomy. The focus is how nature and the heavens proclaim the glory of God. The 25-chapter textbook is thorough and includes special sections on Biblical origins, case studies, possible careers in science and so much more! Science versus the false philosophy of evolution is carefully presented to give students a clear understanding of God's truth. Many fascinating experiments and labs compliment regular classroom instruction. Text: *Earth Science* (BJU Press).