

Jr. High Academic Planning Guide

2012-2013 School Year

Christian Life Academy

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CHRISTIAN LIFE ACADEMY JUNIOR HIGH

GENERAL INFORMATION

STUDENT ACADEMIC FILE

Keep the following information in a file for each of your children: progress reports, report cards, standardized achievement test scores, schedule requests, etc.

EARNING CREDIT

Junior High students enrolled in yearlong academic courses must earn at least a 70% average on each of the two semesters to pass each course.

GRADING SCALE

Regular Courses		Honor Courses	
A = 93 - 100	4 Quality Pts.	A = 93 - 100	5 Quality Pts.
B = 85 - 92	3 Quality Pts.	B = 85 - 92	4 Quality Pts.
C = 75 - 84	2 Quality Pts.	C = 75 - 84	3 Quality Pts.
D = 67 - 74	1 Quality Pt.	D = 67 - 74	1 Quality Pt.
F = 66/below	0 Quality Pt.	F = 66/below	0 Quality Pt.

GRADING

Our school year is divided into two semesters. Each semester has two quarters. Quarter grades will be determined by the numerical average of all work completed during the quarter. Each semester grade is calculated by the following formula:

$$.85 \frac{(Q1+Q2)}{2} + .15 \text{ Exam} = \text{Semester Average}$$

Junior High students receive a final grade for the year. The final grade is the numeric average of semester 1 and semester 2.

REPORTING GRADES

Every four and one-half week your child will receive a Progress Report or a Quarter grade electronically via your student's transcript posted on Edline. Paper copies of semester and final grades are mailed home. A report card schedule with distribution dates is published on the school website and is available upon request. Unofficial weekly grades are available through access to the EDLINE system.

EXAMS

At the end of each semester there is a cumulative semester exam that counts as 15% of the semester grade. See formula above.

PLACEMENT IN THE HONOR TRACK

Placement in English 7(H), English I (H), Pre-Algebra and/or Algebra I (H) is made by the administration after reviewing grades, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendations. Placement is subject to parental approval.

PUPIL PROGRESSION POLICY

Students may be promoted having failed one course. However, if the course is math or English, the student **must** pass the course in summer school to be promoted.

If a student fails two courses, he/she must attend summer school to make up one of the deficits. A student failing three subjects must make up two during the summer. A student failing four subjects will repeat the grade.

504 ACCOMMODATIONS

Students requesting 504 accommodations must submit written medical documentation of their learning disability to the guidance office. Where possible, CLA is prepared to make reasonable accommodations for students who meet the following criteria as determined by a professional evaluator: student must have average to above average ability to learn, student does not require a trained special education teacher, and the student must have the ability to pursue a high school diploma.

For an additional fee, parents may request enrollment in the Bridge to Success course designed for students needing 504 Accommodations. This course will provide individual assistance in several areas: special test taking procedures, organization and time management and completion of homework

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



CLUBS

Junior High Student Council officers and representatives are elected at the beginning of the year. They plan Junior High events throughout the school year.

SPORTS

Volleyball – Girls
Basketball
Soccer
Cross Country/Track
Tennis

Bowling
Softball
Baseball
Football
Swimming



SOCIAL EVENTS

There are four major events planned for the Junior High throughout the year. They are Junior High Homecoming Week, Winter Formal, “Crazy Christmas Caper”, and “The Big Splash.”

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2012-2012

REQUIRED COURSES:

Bible 7-8 – The 7th and 8th grade Bible curriculum includes a year of character studies of Bible figures and a year of studying qualities of Christian character such as love, loyalty and service.

English 7 – This course focuses on basic grammar and usage skills. Vocabulary is taught on a daily basis. Literature and the use of novels is an essential component of this course. Narrative and expository composition skills are included through the entire class.

English 7 (H) - This course covers the same concepts as regular English 7 but is taught in a more rigorous format and with more demanding essays, projects, and tests.

English 8 – This course’s primary focus is the careful reading and analysis of a variety of literary genres. Students gain experience in narrative, descriptive, and expository writing. They develop their vocabulary, understanding, and usage of formal English grammar and mechanics.

English I (H) – This course is for high achieving 8th grade students who are willing to commit to an honor track in high school that will include Advanced Placement courses. Placement is determined by past grades, achievement test scores, parental commitment, and teacher/administration recommendation. Credit for this course counts toward total units needed for high school graduation and the TOPS scholarships.

Math 7 – This course integrates skills and concepts needed for success in subsequent math courses. Units include fractions, geometry, data, probability, measurement, and algebra. In addition, basic skills that include adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing whole numbers, fractions, and decimals will be taught throughout the year.

Pre-Algebra - This course is a transition from arithmetic to algebra. The major emphasis is on teaching students to reason and communicate mathematically as well as prepare them for algebra. Topics covered include variables and expressions, integers, graphing on the coordinate plane, solving multi-step equations, ratio, proportion, and probability.

Algebra I (H) – Having completed and mastered pre-algebra, 8th grade students must have the teacher’s recommendation in order to be placed in Algebra I (H). This course lays the foundation for all future work in mathematics, science, and real world problem solving. Topics include solving and graphing linear and nonlinear equations and inequalities, solving and graphing systems of linear equations and inequalities, factoring and simplifying polynomials, ratios, and radical expressions. Credit for this course counts toward total units needed for high school graduation and the TOPS scholarships.

Life Science 7 – Seventh grade science explores the basics of life. Through this course, students will gain a basic understanding of cells and the role they play in life, explore the basic principles of heredity and genetic disorders, and study the six kingdoms of classification and how they are divided. Students will also learn about the human body and the different organ systems.

Earth Science 8 – This course is a comprehensive course that explores the Earth's composition (structure, processes, and history), its atmosphere (fresh water and oceans), and its environment (weather and space). From a personal and worldview perspective, students will analyze the social implications of the topics covered. Topics include an exploration of the major cycles that affect every aspect of life including weather, climate, and air movement, tectonics, volcanic eruptions, rocks, minerals, geologic history, the earth's environment, sustainability and energy resources.

Louisiana History 7 – This course gives students a general knowledge of Louisiana's historical leaders, events, geography, cultural heritage, and governmental processes. The study will center on the following: knowledge of the past helps us understand the present, Louisiana is a reflection of the various cultures that make it up, and Louisiana's location on the Mississippi River impacts the state.

U.S. History 8 – This course explores the study of our country's chronological history from its beginnings with the Native Americans through the completion of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era. The use of visual and organizational aids such as maps, charts, timelines, and outlines are essential skills that will be developed in this class. History comes alive through the use of lecture, multi-media, and quarterly projects.

Physical Education 7/8 – This course develops personal physical fitness and skills to enjoy lifelong sports. Students prepare and take the Presidential Physical Fitness Test, and those who qualify earn fitness awards. Typical units for boys include soccer, flag football, basketball, weight training, first aid, horseshoes, bowling and volleyball. Units for girls include aerobic dance, track, basketball, volleyball, swimming, bowling, and gymnastics. Assessment is based on daily responsibility for being properly dressed out, physical skills, sportsmanship, positive participation, and written tests for each unit.

Language Arts 7

Language Arts 8

Computer Literacy 8 (one semester) This course emphasizes beginning and intermediate learning and usage of typing skills, Microsoft (MS) Word, Power Point, and Excel.

ENRICHMENT COURSES:

Wind Ensemble is a yearlong course for students in the 8th grade who have had band experience. Approval from the band director is a prerequisite.

Beginning Band is a yearlong course for students in the 7th and 8th grade who have little or no experience in band.

Junior High Choir is a yearlong course designed to introduce students to the basics of group singing, with a focus on matching pitch, breath management and presentation. Students will learn basic music theory. The choir will perform two large concerts, one during each semester, as well as several smaller events in conjunction with school events. Little to no experience is required for this level of singing.

Other enrichment courses: All other students will be placed in other enrichment courses by administration. The courses offered will be determined according to staff and scheduling availability. In the past, courses have included art, foreign language, computer skills, drama, and speech.

JR. HIGH SCHEDULED CLASSES:

7th Grade	8th Grade
<i>Requirements:</i>	<i>Requirements:</i>
English 7 or 7 Honors	English 8 or English I Honors
Math 7 or Math 8	Math 8 or Algebra I Honors
Life Science	Earth Science
Louisiana History	U.S. History
Physical Education 7	Physical Education 8
Bible	Bible
Language Arts 7	Language Arts 8
<i>Electives:</i>	<i>Electives:</i>
Choir/Band/ or other enrichment courses	Choir/Band/ or other enrichment courses

This course aims to assist students in becoming life-long readers by incorporating various genres of literature with the fine arts. Students respond creatively to the literature they read through various mediums such as painting and drama.