

Course Descriptions: Seventh Grade

Course Type:

Course Title: Art 7-8

Instructor: Ms. Culver, cculver@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn understanding that they are part of the Divine Design. They will learn the elements of design and how to observe the “Beauty of this World.” They are introduced to many mediums and styles of creating art images. They learn that partnering with the spirit; they may all become wonderful artists. The students develop their talents through persistent efforts in drawing and painting. They each have personal sketchbooks provided by our school, where weekly homework is required. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through three events that will give each student an opportunity to display their art. These events include a gallery competition in December, a State-wide competition, that will challenge them, in developing Arbor Day posters, and the American Heritage School Art Show which will display all work completed during the year. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to complete assignments during class time, keep them organized, and remember their sketchbooks. To support your student, please consider checking your student’s sketchbooks and giving encouragement.

Course Type:

Course Title: History 7

Instructors: Ms. Updike, lupdike@ahsmail.com; Mrs. Scanland, sscanland@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn Foundations and Principles of “His” Story (History); a Review of Timeline links with an emphasis on those studied in 7th grade History; Vaudois; Scriptural Giants of the 1200s through the 1600s; The Reformers; The Explorers; The Reformation; The Colonization of North America; America’s Infancy and Manhood--The Christian Idea of Man and Government Takes Root; The Enlightenment/Age of Revolution and Empire; Explosion of Invention and Industry—Free Enterprise and Economic Prosperity in America; Decline and Fall of British Empire; The Restoration of the Gospel and Fullness of Times. Students will learn through lectures, handouts, worksheets, group projects, media, discussions, assigned student presentations, speakers, exams (oral and written), essays, and field trips. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through term projects/papers, oral presentations, written and oral exams, worksheets, map making, group presentations, displaying talents, class discussions, and a Master Project. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through phone calls, Edline, newsletters, calendars, and school visits. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to consistently use 4 R (research, reason, relate, and record) principles in their lives and work; turn in work completed to the best of ability and on time; prepare for and complete a Master Project and memorize facts and principles. To support your student, please check the homework calendar online or in the homework folder. Please help with final proofing of written work, including, but not limited to Word Studies; T-Charts, essays, etc. (without re-writing, please). Provide time for your scholar to read Literature and History assignments.

Course Type:

Course Title: Girls/Boys Physical Education 7-8

Instructor: Mrs. Jespersen, tjerspersen@ahsmaail.com

In this course, students will learn teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty, tolerance, flexibility, attitude, cooperation, self-discipline, and determination through a variety of sports and games such as four-square, ultimate Frisbee, soccer, flag football, dodge ball, basketball, kickball, capture the flag, etc. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through active participation in the scheduled sport, game or activity. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to work to achieve their individual Presidential Fitness goals. To support your student, please consider encouraging your child to be physically active thirty-sixty minutes each day, checking Edline for the scheduled weeks for Presidential Fitness testing, and asking your child about the results of his/her test, then encourage your child to set and work toward a goal.

Course Type:

Course Title: Literature 7

Instructors: Mrs. Updike, lupdike@ahsmaail.com, Mrs. Meade, wmeade@ahsmaail.com

Scriptural foundations and principles, as well as the study of the history of the English language will be core to our studies this year. Improvement of orthography (penmanship) is expected. Spelling will be a focus, implementing Riggs phonograms and rules. The students will study prosody by reviewing versification and figures of speech. We will memorize marvelous selections of poetry from Longfellow, Dickinson, Shakespeare and other poets and sources. In our study of etymology, we will review the basics and emphasize word analysis. Dictionary studies will include many word studies and curricular vocabulary. Syntax (grammar) studies will build upon all that scholars have previously learned concerning sentence analysis and the diagramming of complex sentences. The full nature and extent of grammar will be taught as a foundation for success in grades eight through twelve at American Heritage School. We will use sentences from our history, literature and scripture which will be analyzed, broken into shorter sentences and recombined in terms of form and arrangement considerations. Composition will address creating essays, short stories, poetry, letters, dialogue writing, etc. Scholars will learn the Language Arts Writing Methods. Scholars have access to examples of great writing to help them review/learn methods here at our school. Daily and weekly assignments are given. Scholars will learn through written/oral exams and quizzes, papers of some length, essays, writing of poetry, scholar-directed presentations in groups and individually, displaying of talents in a variety of forms, celebrations of learning, class discussions, and a Master Project. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing is through Edline, calendars, phone calls, checking homework folder, calling the teacher, class visits, and discussing assignments with your scholar. For many scholars, the greatest challenge is consistently turning in homework on time and using his/her best abilities. To support your scholar, we encourage you to help with final proofing of your child's writing assignments. Provide time and a quiet place for your scholar to do his/her work.

Course Type:

Course Title: Literature 7

Instructors: Mrs. Updike, lupdike@ahsmaail.com, Mrs. Meade, wmeade@ahsmaail.com

In this course, scholars will learn literature as influenced by Christianity's westward movement. We will study materials from the primary genre of the novel, biography, autobiography, short story, poetry, sermon, speech, letter, essay, scripture, and drama. Specific works are: "A Shepherd Looks

At Psalm 23”, by Phillip Keller, “Exiled: The Story of John Lothrop”, by Helene Holt, “Macbeth,” by William Shakespeare, “Idylls of the King”, by Tennyson, “The First Vision”, by Joseph Smith. A Master Project will include reading a biography and creating an extensive Notebook and oral presentation on the life of a hero of the Scholar’s choice. Scholars will learn through lectures, discussions (with parents, teachers and classmates) presentations/reports, oral and written exams, quizzes, study sheets, essays, speakers, and celebrations. They will also have the opportunity to create and display works of art in all areas. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, scholars will demonstrate their understanding through the Master Project and creating literature of their own. The most reliable way to access specific information about course work is through Edline, and newsletters distributed via e-mail. We encourage all parents to contact teachers frequently through e-mail, phone calls, and visits to the classroom. The expectation is that Scholars will develop Christian character and self-government through consistent preparation and participation in all activities of this course. Please provide quiet time and space for your scholar to 4R (research, reason, relate, and record). Encourage them to call the teacher if they are uncertain about an assignment. Discuss what they are reading and 4R with them. Encourage them to be prepared with homework on due dates. Editing your scholar’s work gives you an opportunity to know what he/she is learning and provides another set of eyes for assignments.

Course Type:

Course Title: Science 7

Instructor: Mr. Miller, smiller@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn about the physical sciences of chemistry and physics. The first term will cover chemistry; the second, physics. The curriculum for each area will deal with the basic understanding of each discipline. Emphasis will be on understanding basic laws and not concentrated on complex mathematical formulas that form the basis for each area of study. Our concentration will be on students’ observing, experimenting, and drawing conclusions for themselves. The year will start with a brief tutorial on the basics of science, its history, and the importance of the scientific method. These are essential to the study and mastery of the physical sciences. As with all AHS science classes, the most important theme is developing a complete understanding of Heavenly Father’s divine hand in the creation of all things and the tying of science and faith together in a manner that will support students throughout their life regardless of where their education or vocation may take them. The focus will be on physical in general terms rather than the more specific. We will study individual laws, forces, and concepts for their characteristics and role in Heavenly Fathers design for our world and universe. We want students to become familiar with the miraculous universe designed for the eternal mission we have been given as set forth in the scriptures. The primary method of instruction will be lecture and PowerPoint slide presentations, along with approved movies. Each class always begins with prayer and a scripture that is linked to the subject being taught. Presentations are designed in compliance with the 4R method (research, reason, relate and record.) Each student will have a notebook that they are responsible for, and the notebook will be graded. In concert with handouts, this notebook will become their textbooks. In addition to being able to discuss the topics students will demonstrate their understanding through short exams given after each section of study. There will be no end of term exam. All seventh grade students will have a yearlong project of taking 15 pictures having to do with physics. A brief explanation of the concept demonstrated will also be required. This will be due the week BEFORE the last week of school. Detailed instructions will be posted on Edline and a handout sent home with the instructions requiring a parent’s signature. The most reliable way for

parents to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through reviewing the student's science folder once a week to see how well they are progressing. For many students the most challenging part of class is to ensure that science not become more complicated than it really is at this point in their academic career. If this becomes the case, or your student has special needs (i.e. they can't read the board or hear the teacher speak, please let the teacher know so proper arrangements may be made for them. To support your student, please consider dedicating 15 to twenty minutes a week (split up) to discuss what they have learned, what they may be confused about, or what they think of the classroom environment. Please have them bring home their notebook at least twice a term to review it with them for completeness and neatness.

Course Type:

Course Title: Speech 7

Instructor: Mrs. Perry, jperry@ahsmail.com

In this introductory course students have an opportunity to gain skill, confidence, and fluency in public speaking. Students develop an understanding of both basic communication principles and public speaking strategies through their application of these principles to a variety of speaking assignments. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to be comfortable presenting speeches to peers. To support your student, please consider allowing them to practice their speeches in front of you. The speeches will also need to be timed.

Course Type:

Course Title: Young Men's Chorus 7-8

Instructor: Mrs. Hancock, chancock@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn to develop a life-long appreciation and love for quality music, to expand vocal range, develop a musical ear, sight-singing, solfege/hand signs, rhythm, instruments, theory, and composer listening through a basic singing curriculum, including warm-up and vocal play and unison and part singing, and through writing melodic and rhythmic dictation, and experience in choral singing. Each day the students will sing, listen, write, conduct, and broaden their skills in music literacy. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through participating in devotionals, concerts, and Patriot Programs; term projects including a concert report and musical quote assignment; and through maintaining a notebook. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through occasional handouts sent home in the student's backpack, the newsletter, Friday Facts, and Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to have an attitude and willingness to participate, memorize and perform. To support your student, please consider attending concerts, being familiar with concert dress requirements. Ask your student to share what they are learning in music. Consider visiting the class; we have an open door policy.

Course Type:

Course Title: Young Women's Chorus 7-8

Instructor: Mrs. Hancock, chancock@ahsmail.com

In this course, students will learn to develop a life-long appreciation and love for quality music, to expand vocal range, develop a musical ear, sight-singing, solfege/hand signs, rhythm, instruments, theory, and composer listening through a basic singing curriculum, including warm-up and vocal

play and unison and part singing, and through writing melodic and rhythmic dictation, and experience in choral singing. Each day the students will sing, listen, write, conduct, and broaden their skills in music literacy. In addition to being able to discuss their learning, students will demonstrate their understanding of these topics through participating in devotionals, concerts, and Patriot Programs; term projects including a concert report and musical quote assignment; and through maintaining a notebook. The most reliable way to receive specific information about course work, including topics and timing, is through occasional handouts sent home in the student's backpack, the newsletter, Friday Facts, and Edline. For many students, the most challenging part of class is to have an attitude and willingness to participate, memorize and perform. To support your student, please consider attending concerts, being familiar with concert dress requirements. Ask your student to share what they are learning in music. Consider visiting the class; we have an open door policy.