



CATALYST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

EIGHTH GRADE SCOPE & SEQUENCE

LATIN AND LANGUAGE ARTS

Reading selections become increasingly challenging. Works are studied in their entirety. Students will still be guided through discussions of what they have read to be sure the fullness of the American short stories or poetry is digested. Vocabulary and base knowledge of the time period will provide the cultural literacy needed to facilitate this type of study. Central themes are highlighted through teacher-led discussions. Students will begin to write essays in response to what they have read and discussed.

In eighth grade, students are guided through the next stage of the *progymnasmata*. Here students learn the six types of arguments and master how to construct, arrange, and execute them in a persuasive essay. Lessons are guided through a series of exercises. Each exercise focuses on a distinct portion of the final essay. Students continue to develop their use of figures of speech and description. Thesis sentence construction is a point of focus at this level.

This is the final year for a focused study of English grammar as a separate subject. Students will continue to gain practice in grammar within the Latin program. They will complete their study of the Latin grammar in preparation for translation of literary works.

Reading

Students will:

- Orally read with level-appropriate fluency, expression, and understanding
- Display understanding of historical background of each book
- Engage in moral reflection
- Glean meaning of unknown vocabulary from context
- Comprehend at a literal and inferential level
- Be familiar with key quotations
- Understand quotations in the context of the story
- Master literary elements: plot, character, setting
- Be familiar with key literary terms and their application to the text
- Appreciate good literature
- Summarize correctly
- Further develop writing skills
- Gain background knowledge of Shakespearean theater
- Memorize poetry

Composition

Students will:

- Summarize correctly
- Further develop writing skills
- Develop ability to arrange arguments more effectively
- Display advanced usage of figures of description and speech

- Master the six forms of argument: Legality, Justice, Expediency, Possibility, Honor, Consequence
- Expand their writing style
- Display greater grammatical expertise
- Expand use and understanding of figures of description and figures of speech

Grammar

Students will:

- Correctly use the active and passive voice
- Master application of the subject/verb agreement rule
- Properly use English in oral and written form
- Write effective sentences using the seven basic qualities of unity, coherence, conciseness, parallelism, action, emphasis, and variety
- Recognize and properly use the six classes of pronouns
- Recognize and use adjectives correctly
- Recognize and use adverbs correctly
- Distinguish between adjectives and adverbs
- Use prepositions correctly
- Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions correctly
- Identify and not overuse interjections
- Master diagramming the parts of speech

Penmanship

Students will:

- Continue perfection of legibility and beauty in handwritten material

Latin

Students will:

- Expand upon the grammar and vocabulary foundation of prior *Forms*
- Memorize new vocabulary and grammar forms
- Complete basic Latin grammar
- Master participles, infinitives, gerunds, and gerundives
- Master irregular verbs and deponent verbs
- Master plural nouns
- Master pronouns, both relative and interrogative
- Understand the locative case
- Shift in focus to translation and syntax, leading to the ability to regularly translate paragraph and multiparagraph readings
- Understand new grammatical concepts

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press Literature Guides for *Treasure Island*, *Tom Sawyer*, *The Wind in the Willows*, and *As You Like It* (Student and Teacher for each)**– Consumable study guides and teacher keys with activities that include vocabulary lessons, comprehension questions for each chapter, and various language arts activities.
 - ***Bard of Avon* by Diane Stanley** – Biography of William Shakespeare.

- **Memoria Press Poetry & Short Stories for the Logic Stage (Student, Teacher, and Anthology)** – A study of short stories and poetry from early American literature. Anthology includes all selections. Consumable *Student Guide* provides reading notes, vocabulary, comprehension and discussion questions. *Teacher Guide* includes answer key and quizzes and tests.
- **Memoria Press Fourth Form Latin (Text, Student, Teacher Manual and Key, Quizzes & Tests, Pronunciation CD, and Flashcards)** – Latin grammar program which reviews the previous three levels of study with the addition of more advanced grammar with longer, more challenging translation passages, completing the formal study of Latin grammar.
 - **Henle Latin I (Text, Key, and Grammar)** – Used in conjunction with *Fourth Form Latin* to facilitate the transition to translation of larger passages.
- **Memoria Press English Grammar Recitation (Handbook and Flashcards)** – Concise manual containing 150 rules of English grammar, capitalization, and punctuation stated in the form of questions and examples, to be memorized and practiced with the accompanying workbook.
- **Memoria Press English Grammar Recitation V (Student and Teacher)** – This book covers two or three grammar questions in each lesson with accompanying written implementation practice.
- **Core Skills Language Arts 8** – Student guide to be used as an independent practice supplement to both *Fourth Form Latin* and *English Grammar Recitation*.
- **Memoria Press Classical Composition V: Common Topic (Student and Teacher)** – Level V of the *progymnasmata* method of teaching composition including thorough review of previous stages.

MATHEMATICS

Students will be required to use advanced concepts introduced in pre-algebra and apply them adequately. A plethora of exercises ensures students grasp which algebraic concepts should be applied to a given problem. This year, students learn the grammar portion of this new language called algebra.

Students will:

- Learn the language of mathematics
- Learn how to identify and use mathematical parts of speech, expressions, and translations
- Understand the number system
- Understand orders of operation in algebra
- Identify relationships between order and properties of number
- Learn sets and functions
- Understanding how to group symbols
- Understanding absolute value
- Solving problems with numbers, consecutive integers, age, geometric figures, motion, and percent
- Understanding how to graph special cases
- Use slope and solution to determine relation
- Understanding infinite solutions
- Solving problems with two placeholders
- Understanding algebraic and graphic systems
- Solving problems with three placeholders

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *VideoText Algebra***
 - *Course Notes* (Module A-C) – Reference notes for each lesson.
 - *Student Work Text* (Module A-C) – The students textbook. Works in conjunction with each lesson, as it will contain key lesson points needed for success with the objective. Contains definitions, examples, and ten to twenty exercises.
 - *Solutions Manual* (Module A-C) – Contains step-by-step solutions for every exercise.
 - *Instructor's Guide* (Module A-C) – Contains step-by-step solutions for quizzes and tests.
 - *Progress Tests* (Module A-C) – Consumable quizzes and tests.

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

This year, the study of geography will focus on solidifying mapping skills, including labeling of major landforms. In addition, students study world climates, history, cultures, and religions. Students practice their mapping skills weekly. The Robinson Map Project (learning to draw the world from memory) is available as honors work.

Students will:

- Master world geography
- Identify countries and capitals of the major countries of the world
- Identify key geographical features of these countries
- Be able to draw and label the continents
- Have knowledge of important history, religion, language, culture, topography, and famous landmarks for each major region in the world
- Demonstrate familiarity with an atlas and the subsequent understanding of climate, population, and other map patterns

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *Geography III (Text, Student, and Teacher)*** – A study of the climate, recent history, culture, religion, landforms, and topography of every continent that also reviews and solidifies the mapping skills learned in *Geography I-II*. Consumable *Student Guide* provides comprehension questions and map activities and the *Teacher Guide* provides a comprehensive key and quizzes and tests.
 - **Memoria Press *Geography Flashcards*** – Set of cards to aid in independent study of the physical location of each country and capital. Used with *Geography I-III*.
 - *Classroom Atlas* – Recommended supplement to the study.

SCIENCE

Physical Science is an introduction to the more advanced sciences of high school from which students will continue to learn about the world around us and how it works. The text chosen provides a Christian perspective while ensuring necessary skills are acquired. Students will learn about the order and design in nature, energy, substances, forces, and laws as well as reactions and measurements.

Students will:

- Define scientific terms
- Apply math to the scientific concepts being learned

- Know key scientists who contributed to our understanding of the universe
- Assess case studies in order to integrate knowledge of theories
- Understand the difference between facts and theories
- Perform calculations using unit conversions
- Develop good problem-solving methods
- Solve a variety of equations such as volume, density, and acceleration
- Understand magnetism and its cause
- Make accurate measurements in experiments
- Learn how to eliminate experimental error when calculating in a science lab

Texts Used:

- **Novare Physical Science by John Mays (Text and Resource CD)** – Mastery-oriented physical science course complete with quizzes, exams, and a teacher key, as well as weekly review guides.

CLASSICAL STUDIES

Building upon the study of major Greek figures from last year, students continue with a historical overview of this key civilization. Then students spend half of this pivotal year immersed in a complete reading of Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.

Students will:

- Understand background information about Homer
- Have knowledge of key places and characters in Greek history
- Be familiar with the varied religious, historical, and genealogical information in Homer
- Display critical reading and analysis
- Develop research skills
- Continue to progress with answering discussion and comprehension questions
- Be able to recognize maps of the ancient world
- Understand the introduction and have an appreciation of Homer and epic literature
- Compose answers to in-depth questions
- Memorize key passages in Homer
- Identify significant quotes from the text

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *The Book of the Ancient Greeks* by Dorothy Mills (Text, Student, and Teacher)** – Text covering the stories of the history of Greece and its Golden Age. Consumable *Student Guide* presents facts to know and vocabulary as well as comprehension questions and map practice. *Teacher Guide* provides information key to this study including quizzes and tests.
- **Memoria Press *The Iliad* translated by Samuel Butler (Novel, Student, and Teacher)** – Prose translation of Homer's epic. Consumable *Student Guide* has key facts to know, quotes, vocabulary, maps, and comprehension questions. *Teacher Manual* has additional background information, a full answer key with quizzes and tests as well as a cumulative final.
- **Memoria Press *The Odyssey* translated by Samuel Butler (Novel, Student, and Teacher)** – Prose translation of Homer's epic. Consumable *Student Guide* has key facts to know, quotes, vocabulary, maps, and comprehension questions. *Teacher Manual* has additional background information, a full answer key with quizzes and tests as well as a cumulative final.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

To complement the study of ancient civilizations within Classical Studies, students will explore geography, culture, architecture, and prominent people within the beginnings and rise of the ancient Middle East. Students will learn about the rise of Christianity and the effect it had on neighboring countries.

Students will:

- Have concrete understanding of the culture, context, and setting of the Bible as it relates to the civilizations surrounding the Hebrews
- Have working knowledge of key characters, places, and events from this time period
- Acquire new vocabulary
- Know key quotations from ancient sources
- Use primary sources
- Critically read and analyze text
- Appreciate the cultural contributions of the ancient world
- Be able to discuss key quotations of ancient historians
- Compose answers to in-depth questions from the text

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *The Book of the Ancient World by Dorothy Mills (Text, Student, and Teacher)*** – Text covering the stories of the history of ancient civilizations and how they were shaped by Christianity. Consumable *Student Guide* presents facts to know and vocabulary as well as comprehension questions and map practice. *Teacher Guide* provides information key to this study including quizzes and tests.

GREEK

Once students have a solid foundation in Latin, the addition of Greek should be considered. Latin introduces students to concepts such as case, gender, declensions, conjugations, and agreement. Greek is harder than Latin: It has a different alphabet, overlapping sounds, and many diphthongs, all of which make spelling more difficult. It is also less regular than Latin. Students at this level are able to address this challenge.

Students will:

- Know the Greek alphabet
- Master six indicative active tenses of the Omega Verb
- Master 1st and 2nd declension nouns
- Work with 1st and 2nd declension adjectives
- Be familiar with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd person pronouns and demonstrative pronouns

Texts Used:

- **Memoria Press *First Form Greek (Text, Student, Teacher Manual and Key, Pronunciation CD, and Flashcards)*** – Introductory Greek grammar course.