

MS/HS Class Descriptions

MS Science

Middle School Swimming Creatures

Laura Motok

Exploring Creation with Zoology /Swimming Creatures of the 5th Day.

Both Textbook and notebook journal required by the first day of tutorial

Dive into the underwater world of marine animals! Written directly to the student, the gentle conversational style makes Zoology 2: Swimming Creatures of the Fifth Day perfect for elementary and middle school children to read on their own, or for family reading times with mom or dad. Presenting information with a strong creationist viewpoint, this detailed book contains chapters on aquatic animals, whales, seals, fish, sharks, reptiles, cephalopods and many other creatures you didn't even know existed! Narration may be easily used with younger children; notebooking and "ocean box" activities are included at the end of each chapter. In class labs develop the skills needed to conduct scientifically valid experiments in any field, while magnificent photos bring the ocean right into your classroom. 235 pages, indexed hardcover with answers to the narrative questions included.

This curriculum is easily adjusted for grades 2/3 and can easily be made more challenging for middle school. Older students can expect quizzes on a regular basis and more age-appropriate assignments, that include both writing and research.

Both the textbook and the notebook journal are required for this class. Only the most current edition of both textbook and notebook journals are accepted.

[Swimming Creatures 2nd edition](#)

Books not available to purchase until May 2024.

Physical Science

Heather Donnell

Physical science is designed to prepare your 8th-10th grade student as they transition into high school. This science course teaches atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonds, reactions, motion, forces, energy, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, Earth's structure, weather, and atmosphere.

In this class we will perform most of the labs in the course and review key concepts from the material. The class time will be reserved for hands-on learning through labs while most of the book work will be done at home.

Jessica Sauer**Composition and Critical Reading (11-12 English)**

Course description: Composition and Critical Reading is a study of writing skills and critical thinking skills. All literature selections will be used for the improvement of reading strategies, literacy interpretation, and critical analysis. Students will study different genres of literature (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and plays).

Topics:

Composition-- writing techniques that enhance student's ability to analyze texts, respond to literature, develop language and style, and produce various types of writing. We will focus on writing, revising, workshopping, and editing.

Critical Reading- 5 critical reading techniques (Survey, Ask Questions, Read Actively, Respond to Questions, Record Key Ideas) We will read work from various genres in order to learn interpretation and analysis skills.

Writing curriculum:

- Literary Analysis-The American Identity
- Argumentative/Persuasive Essay
- Research Paper

Texts, provided by the teacher

- "Great American Short Stories"
- Native American Myth stories
- American Non-Fiction essays (Early American essays/Emerson/Thoreau/Douglass/Lincoln/etc.)

To Purchase:

- "Fahrenheit 451" - Ray Bradbury
 - <https://a.co/d/fOFBIET>
- "Little Women" - Louisa May Alcott
 - <https://a.co/d/8ohxkmi>
- "Paradise Lost"- John Milton
 - Bloomsbury annotated edition- ISBN 9781847498038

English II (8-10 English)**Jessica Sauer**

Course description: English II: Literature and Composition is a study of the major topics and themes across the history of world literature. Students will focus on the major literary forms in America, analyze literary themes and trends, and research and compose written assignments including a Literary Analysis.

Topics: narrative writing, theme, author's purpose, diction, figurative

language, grammar in context, poetry, non-fiction essays, allegory, symbolism, and novel studies on friendship and kindness.

Writing assignments:

- Literary Analysis
- Poetry response- Poetry writing
- Research essay

Texts:

- “Flowers for Algernon” by Daniel Keyes
- <https://a.co/d/85lQjzI>
- “Fish in a Tree”- Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- <https://a.co/d/otHDb7H>
- Poetry: various works (provided for students!)
- **Each student will receive a 1 inch binder full of the material they will need for each semester! This will cover the poetry, short story selections, and grammar work.

MS Creative Writing: Becoming a Creative Writer

Jessica Sauer

Course Description: This class will focus on expressive writing and the ways that we explore several different types of figurative language and style. Students will keep a collective PORTFOLIO of their work including various writing forms such as descriptive writing, poetry, response to art, lyrics, speech writing, fiction, and drama. We will explore language, vocabulary, and style along the way as we study writing examples and participate in peer review workshops! Our classes will consist of exciting journeys through the creation, editing, and production of different kinds of creative writing. I also plan to invite 1-2 local published authors to visit our class this year. I am so excited to be teaching another year of Creative Writing with our students!

Topics: The craft of writing-comic book creation, short stories, speeches, journal/writing for personal expression, poetry, fairy tale writing, and children's books. Writing for different purposes and audiences.

Materials:

I have purchased the Creative Writing course from "The Good and the Beautiful" in addition to a collection of small writing projects that students will keep in their portfolio throughout the year. I will provide students with these materials!

Students will need the following materials:

- 1-2 inch binder (these may be creative and as fanciful as they like!)
- Page protectors (at least 20)
- Binder dividers with tabs

HS Creative Writing: The Craft of Writing

Jessica Sauer

Course Description: This class will focus on honing our craft in different writing styles and the ways we can master several different types of figurative language. Students will keep a collective PORTFOLIO of their work including various writing forms such as descriptive writing, poetry, lyrics, speech writing, fiction, resumes, cover letters, and children's books. We will explore language, vocabulary, and style

along the way as we study writing examples and participate in peer review workshops! Our classes will consist of exciting journeys through the creation, editing, and production of different kinds of creative writing! I also plan to invite 2-3 local published authors to visit our class this year! I am so excited to be teaching another year of Creative Writing with our students!

Topics: The craft of writing- Short story writing, speeches, journal/writing for personal expression, poetry, fairy tale writing, and review writing. In the high school course, we will also create cover letters, resumes, and personal statements in preparation for postsecondary writing.

Materials: We will be using various examples of creative writing from authors around the world in addition to a collection of small writing projects that students will keep in their portfolio throughout the year. I will provide students with these materials! (ex: excerpts from beloved children's stories, fairy tales, psalms, short stories, poems, and fantasy writing)

Students will need the following materials:

- 1-2 inch binder (these may be creative and as fanciful as they like!)
- Page protectors (at least 20)
- Binder dividers with tabs

Economics

Shelby Hazzard

Study the choices that societies make regarding the production, distribution, and consumption of goods with Economics: Work and Prosperity. This one-semester course explains the economic principles of production, supply and demand, competition, inflation, and saving. Show the link between economic freedom and political and individual freedom by encouraging free-enterprise capitalism and moral responsibility with money.

Books needed: <https://www.abeka.com/abekaonline/bookdescription.aspx?sbn=376299>

Government

Shelby Hazzard

Civics is the study of how the government works, but this course is so much more than that. To understand how the government ought to work, you first must know the framework and principles of the people who designed and structured it. Then, you must also be aware of your responsibilities as a citizen within it.

Our Constitution was made only for moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. —John Adams

The U.S. Constitution impacts your life and future in ways you probably never imagined. Now delve into the history and everyday applications of the Constitution as you learn how:

The three branches of government are meant to interact — and what happens throughout history when checks and balances have been ignored or circumvented.

You and other citizens can carefully vet candidates that adhere to the Constitution as it was written. To work to support legislation that works within constitutional boundaries and not special political party interests.

The U.S. Constitution remains one of the most amazing safeguards of liberty ever written, but it only works if “we the people” know not just our rights, but the way the government is designed to work — not for the benefit of an all-powerful federal government or per the whims of a judge or political party — but the actual protections at every level that are designed to keep power in the hands of the population for which it must serve.

Book needed: <https://www.masterbooks.com/civics-and-the-constitution>

Personal Finance

Shelby Hazzard

Now that they are on the brink of adulthood, are your teens ready for financial independence? Burkett’s Bible-based workbook will help them buy what they need while avoiding debt; get and keep a job; understand how banks and creditors work; manage a savings/checking account; pay for college; give wisely; and more.

Book needed: <https://www.christianbook.com/money-matters-workbook-for-teens-ages/larry-burkett/9780802463463/pd/63460?event=ESRCG>

MS/HS Guitar

Shelby Hazzard

This guitar class will instruct the basics of the guitar as a musical instrument. How to identify the strings, form basic chords, play using a pick and finger tapping, finger placement and how to tune the guitar by ear if an electric tuner is not available. We will also explore rhythm strumming, back up and lead guitar coordination and practice change ups when playing together with multiple guitars. The student will need their own guitar with a case, strap, and amplifier if it is an electric. It is normally better for a student to begin with an acoustic to develop finger strength and once they have somewhat mastered chord changes, then move to electric. The student will be encouraged to learn one of their favorite guitar songs. We will explore all types of music, always making sure we understand that lyrics must be God honoring.

Automotive Technology: Principles, Diagnosis and Service

Shelby Hazzard

AT will train the student how to practice sound automotive diagnoses at the beginner level. The course will be classroom and in the garage. The student will be trained on how to check tire pressure and analyze tire tread wear; inspect the brake system and determine wear and tear and hydraulics; change the belt; test the battery; check and change oil and trans fluid....etc.

The book I will be using is Automotive Technology: Principles, Diagnosis and Service, 6th Ed. (James D. Halderman). Your student does not have to buy the book (it is HUGE), but it is the textbook that they use in most technical colleges today, so it would be a great one to have your library.

Grades will be based on class attendance and several small quizzes we will have through the semester, which will be announced as they develop monthly.

Theology

Colton Oeser

The Bible has answers! When challenged with the hardest questions, God's word remains true even under the heaviest scrutiny. In this High School course we will be exploring apologetics which is the theological branch of study that explains why we believe what we believe. Students will learn how to build a Christian worldview from the timeless truth of God's word and how to defend it with logical and biblically rooted discussion. See examples of some of the questions we will explore below:

- Is the Bible trustworthy?
 - Is there evidence in the world that God exists?
 - Is science and Christianity compatible?
 - Where does truth come from?
 - Is the resurrection of Jesus historical?
 - Do all religions lead to God?
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HS History 2024-2025

Contemporary American Issues

Eric Massengill

Students will examine the issues that impact contemporary America and, in turn, the world at large. Students will analyze the historical, cultural, economic, and geographic factors that have elevated certain issues to levels of concern in the United States and around the globe. Students will engage in research and problem solving in order to better understand and assess significant current issues. Topics covered will include US-Russian relations in light of the war in Ukraine, US support of Israel in its conflict with Hamas, changing political views of the younger demographic, and the challenge of new nuclear nations.

The textbook for this class is "World Order" by Henry Kissinger. It can be found on Amazon at the following link: [World Order on Amazon](#)

Middle School History 2024-2025

US History from Colonization to Reconstruction

Eric Massengill

In this course students will study the European settlement of North America and the role geographic features played into that settlement. Students will examine the development and growth of the original Thirteen Colonies and the influences that led to the American Revolution. Students will analyze the major events in, and the outcomes of, the Revolution as well as individuals who shaped the new nation.

Students will follow the development of the United States and its government through the 19th century. Students will study and analyze the impact of American expansion and sectionalism and how this affected domestic and foreign policy. Students will study policies that directly affected Native Americans and African Americans. Finally, students will examine the major events leading up to the Civil War and the resulting Reconstruction Era.

The textbook for this class is "America, Empire of Liberty: A New History of the United States" and can be found on Amazon at this link:[America, Empire of Liberty: A New History of the United States on Amazon](#)

Drama/Musical Theatre (Middle School/High School)

Eric Massengill

Dramatic Arts Class

“All the world's a stage...”

Since its beginnings the center of drama has been communication and involvement with the objective of understanding the world.

Through active and interactive classes, students will gain self-confidence, leadership skills, and cooperation. Further, students will become comfortable being in front of others, will learn to think creatively, and acquire skills necessary for the audition process. By participating, students will have a hands-on opportunity to participate in their own learning through the exploration of various forms of drama such as mime, improvisational theatre, reader's theatre, musical theatre dance and choreography, music and song, and creative drama. They will learn how to develop character, create environments, express emotion, movement, and learn memorization techniques. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to learn the "behind the scenes" aspects of theatre. The class will touch on various theatre styles throughout history (It's important to know how we got to where we are!) and encourage exploration of their own expression. The class will culminate in a full-length musical theatre performance in mid to late April.

There is no textbook required for this class. The student's supply fee will be used to purchase materials for the end-of-year performance.

MS/HS Art

Larissa Reed

This class changes year to year. Even if a student has taken this class before, this year will be different. The students will be introduced to new art mediums and new ways to use familiar ones. We often use pen and ink, graphite pencils, watercolor, pastels (both soft and oil) and a touch of acrylic painting. This class relies heavily on drawing to improve hand/eye coordination and observation skills. The students will create projects inspired by other artists and art movements. Often, the projects will take multiple classes to complete, helping to develop the ability to plan and execute projects. This will help them learn to troubleshoot problems and overcome adversity.

Art History

Larissa Reed

Students will study the earliest examples of art that are available, then they will work through history to today's art. The students will create a timeline for themselves. It will include famous artworks as well as important events in history. We will discuss how artists depict the world around them and how it changes depending on what is happening in the world. We use God and the History of Art as our text. I like the photo cards and paint cards that come with the curriculum.

MS/HS Graphic Design

Poem Bokoles

Graphic design is a grand landscape with many different fixation worthy components, however this course will be focused on the electronic Graphical Design art form, as well as the entrepreneurial industry, booming behind it. Students will be hands-on throughout the year while creating many of their own original designs. We will be learning to use the design platforms, "Canva" and "Wix" to practice color theory, word association, industry tricks, and more! Students will walk away from this course, not only knowing how to create electronic graphic designs, such as posters, album art, advertisements etc.... but also how to use this skill as a career launcher should they choose to in the future.

(Laptop required)

MS/HS Cooking

Poem Bokoles

In upper age cooking classes this year, Mrs. Poem is so excited to challenge the students and share what she has learned from Culinary Schooling and real world kitchen experience! Students will learn college level cooking science, knife cutting skills, food safety rules, and hands on cooking techniques. By the end of this course, Poem's goal is to have her students fall in love with the art of cooking and to have a better understanding of the kitchen and how they can fit in it.

Psychology: A Christian Perspective

Kelsie Sims, BS Science in Psychology

Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to psychological principles, concepts, and terminology. Students will explore the history of psychology, the central nervous system, learning & development, and more.

Students will gain a good knowledge of secular psychology and how we as believers, with a biblical worldview, can support, and challenge philosophical assumptions.

As Christians, the world of psychology can seem daunting. This course will help students recognize false relatives and approach psychology in a biblical worldview. Christian psychologists are needed in our culture and society.

What to expect:

Students will be expected to practice healthy classroom behaviors and be challenged to an elevated level of learning.

Students will have opportunities to work together on group projects, have individual assignments and work on case studies and psychological profiles.

Supplies needed:

- Two inch 3-ring binder
- Dividers with tabs (dividers with pockets optional)
- Pen or pencil for note taking
- College-ruled notebook paper or notebook of their choosing

Biology

Amy Holman

This high school science course will provide a broad overview of God's creation as we gain a greater understanding of the study of life. Students will explore many topics including classification, protists, fungi, cell structure and function, plants, animals, genetics and so much more! We will be using the Apologia: Exploring Creation with Biology, 2nd edition, curriculum along with other supplemental materials to give students a detailed understanding of many forms of life. This course also includes the lab that is required for high school credit that will strengthen comprehension through dissections, group projects, lab activities, and experiments that will be conducted together in class. We will use the 2nd edition of the textbook which can be found used at a much lower price. This course is also an excellent choice for 8th grade students to take for high school credit. ISBN: 1932012540 / ISBN13: 9781932012545

MS/HS Home Economics

Hope Bokoles

This is an exciting new course being taught for middle and high school girls. We will be using Home Economics Household Skills Becoming a Daughter with Purpose curriculum. This is a Christian based Home Economics curriculum that focuses on the heart of a young lady as they learn to run a household.

Each chapter begins with a devotion. We will learn about running a household and the skills necessary to do so.

This course will teach cleaning, cooking, sewing, budgeting, childcare, hospitality, meal planning, nutrition, beauty, self-care, organization, job interviewing, and so much more while being Christ centered and preparing a young lady for the world in these areas. This course focuses on developing the skills to perform these tasks while growing the character qualities in each student from the lessons.

MS/HS World Geography

Hope Bokoles

Take a trip around the world and learn about the seven different continents as you are on your journey. This course will be taught just like you are a tourist exploring the world with your own passport. So, pack your bags and come explore this wonderful world God has made for us. We will be using the Around the World in 180 Days curriculum. There will be adventures in each country we explore. There will be hands-on projects in class and homework projects that will be researched based. There is a workbook that accompanies the curriculum that will have questions and definitions that will be done. This course will count for high school credit.

MS Literature

Hope Bokoles

We will be using Learning Language Arts through Literature curriculum for this course. This is a literature-based course, and we will be reading exceptional classic literature that is middle school level. These books are engaging and will help grow your students in reading and develop a love for reading. There will be discussion questions for each book we read as well as vocabulary words, paragraph writing and spelling words. There will be hands-on activities and fun projects to enhance the learning experience for each of these literary works. This course is sure to have something for all middle school students whether they are avid readers or not. Each book will be approached like a new adventure as we learn about the authors and explore their various styles of writing. This is a unique way to learn language arts by pulling all material from the exciting books the students are reading. The books may be audio books for any that need that style of learning.

Spanish 1

Karie Ramirez

Welcome to Spanish 1 - Develop communication skills, learn to share the gospel and study Spanish - speaking countries around the world. We will learn vocabulary and grammar within the context of the nature and attributes of God.

We will use the BJU Spanish Curriculum.

Spanish 2

Karie Ramirez

Building off of our Spanish 1 basics - we dive deeper into conversations about our schedules and daily life while learning about different Spanish speaking cultures/countries.

We will use the BJU Spanish Curriculum.

ACT Prep

Amy Holman

The ACT can be a very intimidating and anxiety-provoking test, especially for homeschoolers who often haven't had much practice taking standardized tests. This course will provide students with key test-taking skills, strategies, and lots of practice to help improve confidence and decrease stress. We will use The Official ACT Prep Guide 2023-24 along with other supplemental materials provided by the tutor to become familiar with ACT format, types of test questions, and test-taking techniques.

Book Link:

[ACT Prep Book on Amazon](#)

MS/HS Dance

Angie Hazzard

We will survey tap, jazz, ballet, and lyrical/praise dance during this class. I hope to have two performances this year. One at the end of each semester. The first will be Christmas themed. All music, movement, and dress will be God glorifying and I hope the students will see dance can be used as a form of worship as well. I am super excited to begin this class. No books needed for this class.

Health

Angie Hazzard

Exploring Creation with Health and Nutrition is a Christian homeschool health curriculum written from a Biblical worldview.

Using vivid illustrations and clear explanations, this health and nutrition course takes a holistic and relevant approach when exploring the physical, nutritional, emotional, social, mental, and spiritual

concepts. By the end of the course, students will understand that their health is ultimately about stewardship: managing what they have the best they can.

Books: Apologia health text and student workbook 2 nd edition

Physical Education

Angie Hazzard

This year in PE I hope to inspire the students to move daily and cultivate the habit of a healthy lifestyle of exercise. This class will incorporate physical conditioning exercise, sports, and games. We will focus on proper form of conditioning exercises, increasing endurance, learning the fundamentals of several sports, and having fun activities and games. I will encourage each student to keep a weekly log of their physical activity and ask that they spend some active time outside each day that weather permits. No books needed for this class.

Algebra 1: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Algebra 1 Level Up Base Set \$107 Includes the Student Workbook, the Test Book, the Instruction Book, the DVD's, and the Digital Pack Also available at Christianbook.com for the same price (EU500615)

Algebra 2: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Algebra 2 Universal Set \$144 Includes Student Workbook, Test Book, Instruction Book, DVD's, and Digital Pack Also available at Christianbook.com for the same price (EU501523)

Geometry: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Geometry Universal Set \$112 Includes Student Workbook, Test Book, Instruction Book, DVD's, and Digital Pack Also available at Christianbook.com for the same price (EU504516)

Pre-Algebra: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Pre-Algebra Level Up Base Set \$107 Includes the Student Workbook, the Test Book, the Instruction Book, the DVD's, and the Digital Pack Also Available through Christianbook.com for the same price

Pre-Calculus: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Pre-Calculus Universal Set \$144 Includes Student Workbook, Test Book, Instruction Book, DVD's, and Digital Pack Also available at Christianbook.com for the same price (EU501530) 2

Sixth Grade Math: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Epsilon Level Up Set Includes the Student Workbook, the Test Book, the Instruction Book, the DVD's, and the Digital Pack Also available through Christianbook.com for the same price. (Item #EU500548)

Seventh Grade Math: Teresa Burrows

Math U See Store.demmelearning.com Zeta Level Up Base Set \$105 Includes the Student Workbook, the Test Book, the Instruction Book, the DVD's, and the Digital Pack Also available through Christianbok.com for the same price. (Item #EU500674)

Chemistry Ruth Meyer

This high school science course will provide students with an introduction and greater understanding of chemistry as it pertains to God's amazing creation. We will explore a wide range of material including atomic and molecular structure, ionic compounds, balancing equations, acids and bases, solutions, chemical reactions, and so much more! We will be using the Apologia: Exploring Creation with Chemistry, 3rd edition, curriculum along with other supplemental materials to ensure that each student gains a usable foundation in the basics of chemistry. This course also includes the required lab for high school credit which will involve lab activities and experiments that will be conducted together in class.

Book Link:

[Christian Book Chemistry](#)