



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Jr. High School On-Campus

2024-2025

JOC

Courses are designed to provide junior high school students instruction in both core and elective subjects while also preparing them to succeed in their upcoming high school courses. Classes will stress attendance, time management, organization, following instructions, test-taking, oral presentation, and general classroom skills.

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COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ROTATIONS

Science Course Recommendation

Academically prepared Jr. High students are encouraged to take General Science in the 7th grade followed by Physical Science in the 8th grade. This path allows students to complete their high school science requirements in the 11th grade, freeing them to take an additional science course or pursue other academic interests in the 12th grade.

English Course Rotation

Each English course consists of three components: grammar, writing, and literature. To accommodate different levels of writing ability, two grammar/writing courses are offered: Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II). Both courses are on the same literature rotation (Unit A or Unit B) and therefore, use the same reading list.

Note: Each student will only be enrolled in one JOC English course per academic year regardless of Level or Unit. Grammar, writing, and literature are all part of the same course.

The following grammar/writing components are offered each year, subject to availability, and must be taken in order unless approved by the JOC Coordinator and Course Instructor.

- Intro to Literature and Composition: Level 1 (WriteShop I)
- Intro to Literature and Composition: Level 2 (WriteShop II)

The following literature components are offered yearly on a rotating basis and may be taken in any order.

- Intro to Literature and Composition: Unit B (2024-2025)
- Intro to Literature and Composition: Unit A (2025-2026)

Social Science Course Rotation

The following courses are offered on a rotating basis, subject to availability, and may be taken in any order.

- Civics w/Alabama History Unit (2024-2025)
- World Geography (2025-2026)

Note: Jr. High (JOC) World Geography is not a substitute for High School (HOC) Geography. Eligible students may take both courses but not during the same academic year.

SCIENCE

General Science

Grades: 7-8

Cost: \$380

Lab Fee: \$40

Placement Test: No

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Marie Tennant

Semester: Fall and Spring

Schedule: Tuesday, 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM

This course is designed to introduce Jr. High students to post-elementary science studies while giving them an excellent opportunity to learn the organization and process of this series before reaching the high school-level courses. Introducing scientific concepts in the context of history, students will follow the work of the scientists who lived during the mid-1900s period known as "The Atomic Age." Students will be "introduced" to a variety of topics, including the scientific method, experimentation, atoms, the periodic table, compounds, and DNA. These topics are all discussed in the context of history, explaining how specific scientific advances led to today's scientific explanations. This allows students to learn not only the current scientific understanding of these topics, but also how scientists reached that understanding. In addition, they will discuss systems of the human body, as well as the living world, including ecosystems and biomes. Throughout the course, God's design in nature is highlighted, and topics in the creation/evolution debate are discussed.

The course will consist of in-class lectures and discussions plus out-of-class reading and assignments. Students will participate in weekly experiments, most of which will be done during class.

Required Resources:

- *Science in the Atomic Age*
Author: Dr. Jay Wile, 2020 (ISBN: 9780996278409)

Optional Resources:

- *Answer Key & Tests for Science in the Atomic Age*
Author: Dr. Jay Wile, 2020 (ISBN: 9780996278416)
- Note: The Solutions and Tests Manual should be kept by the parent until the instructor gives permission to use it.

ENGLISH

Intro to Literature and Composition: 1B (WriteShop I)

Grades: 7-8

Cost: \$380

Lab Fee: \$0

Placement Test: No

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Nikki Adams

Semester: Fall and Spring

Schedule: Monday, 9:00 AM – 11:00 PM

This course is designed for first year students. Students will learn the steps of the writing process through lessons in descriptive, informative, and narrative writing using the WriteShop I curriculum. They also read and explore quality literature through in-class discussion, including answering comprehension questions and examining literary techniques.

Important: Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II) have different writing class times but a shared literature class time. Please note the overlap in schedule for these courses.

Required Resources:

- *WriteShop I Student Workbook, 5th Edition*
Authors: Kim Kautzer and Deborah Older, 2020 (ISBN: 9781935027492)
- *Literature Selections TBA*

Notes:

- Any edition of the literature selections is acceptable.
- Students who use audio books must also have a print version of the text.

ENGLISH

Intro to Literature and Composition: 2B (WriteShop II)

Grades: 7-8

Cost: \$380

Lab Fee: \$0

Placement Test: No

Prerequisite: WriteShop I or Equivalent

Instructor: Nikki Adams

Semester: Fall and Spring

Schedule: Monday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

This course is designed for second year students. Students expand their writing abilities as compositions shift focus to descriptive narration, narrative voice, point of view, use of tense, persuasive writing, and the basic 5-paragraph essay model. Students write multiple kinds of essays, learning to express an opinion and develop and support it with facts, details, and examples. They also read and explore quality literature through in-class discussion, including answering comprehension questions and examining literary techniques.

Important: Introduction to Literature and Composition Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II) have different writing class times but a shared literature class time. Please note the overlap in schedule for these courses.

Required Resources:

- *WriteShop II Student Workbook, 5th Edition*
Authors: Kim Kautzer and Deborah Older, 2020 (ISBN: 9781935027515)
- *Literature Selections TBA*

Notes:

- Any edition of the literature selections is acceptable.
- Students who use audio books must also have a print version of the text.

MATH

Pre-Algebra

Grades: 7-8

Cost: \$380

Lab Fee: \$0

Placement Test: Yes

Prerequisite: No

Instructor: Nikki Adams

Semester: Fall and Spring

Schedule: Thursday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

This course is designed to prepare your student for Algebra 1. Building on a Biblical worldview, your student will learn how the consistencies we see in mathematical concepts proclaim the consistencies of a faithful God. Students will learn the essential principles of algebra, coordinate graphing, probability, statistics, functions, and other important areas of mathematics. Students should be proficient in their math facts for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division before enrolling.

Required Resources:

- *Principles of Mathematics Book 2*
Author: Katherine Loop, 2016 (ISBN: 9780890519066)
- Protractor
- Graph Paper

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Civics with Alabama History

Grades: 7-8

Cost: \$380

Lab Fee: \$0

Placement Test: No

Prerequisite: No

Instructor: Candace Denison

Semester: Fall and Spring

Schedule: Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

This class is designed to give the student a better understanding of how our government works through interactive hands-on projects, dialectic discussion, and debate. The lessons will focus on the branches of government, American's founding documents, the election process, voting, how Congress works, American holidays, and the aspects of federal, state, and local government. Students will be expected to memorize portions of our founding documents and present them to the class. The last 4-5 weeks of the year will focus on Alabama history and geography.

Required Resources:

- *Uncle Sam and You, Part 1*
Authors: Ray and Charlene Notgrass, 2013 (ISBN: 9781609990466)