

Advanced Placement Courses

Advanced Placement courses offer high school students the chance to be challenged with college-level material, and also give students an opportunity to earn college credit for courses taken while at KCHS.

Advanced Placement courses currently offered at Kalamazoo Christian High School include:

- AP Biology
- AP Calculus
- AP English
- AP U.S. History

Applied Arts/Business/Family & Consumer Science

Computer Applications

In this one-semester required course, students will review and improve their keyboard technique. Using MS Word, students will learn about letter format, tables, reports, and precise use of the software. Concepts of desktop publishing, spreadsheets (Excel), and presentation (PowerPoint) will be taught. Ethics in the use of the computer and email will be discussed. This course is a prerequisite for all other computer classes. Required of all sophomores.

Consumer Economics

The goal of this elective one-semester course is to give the students some practical knowledge in the areas of budgeting, banking, savings, credit, insurance, investments, and money management. The course also includes several hands-on projects and experiences that apply the knowledge. Open to all juniors and seniors. Consumer Economics meets the Michigan Social Studies Standards (4.1.1 - 4.1.6)

Applied Technology I and II

This course consists of 2 semesters of instruction. All students, male and female, grades 9-12, are encouraged to take one or both of these semesters. The intent of the course is to introduce the student to as many different areas of technology as possible in the time allowed. Many hands-on activities are planned that spark and hold students interest. Topics

covered include, but are not limited to, Drafting, Wood Technology, Rocketry, Mousetrap Vehicles, Metal Technology, Robotics, Lasers, and Video Production. (Lab Fee: \$35.00)

Auto Mechanics

A one-semester course in which each student will develop an understanding of the internal combustion engine and the systems, which surround it. Limited lab time will be utilized to maintain students autos. All aspects of owning an automobile will be included.

Engineering Drawing

The courses previously offered, Architectural Drawing and Technical Drawing will be combined and the content will focus more on Engineering Drawing. Emphasis will be placed on reading prints and plans to help anyone interested in a career in Engineering and Design.

Pre-Engineering

The class will include Engineering-based problem-solving activities. A hard look at materials; plastics, metals, and wood and all of the various characteristics involved with them will be scrutinized. The processes used to manufacture these materials will also be discussed.

Graphic Arts

This one-semester course involves the exploration of the printing field. The student will generate image to be printed on the latest computer technology. One can hardly get away from products of the Graphic Arts! Did you realize you are reading one right now! Students will print using offset presses, as well as creating and printing using screen presses. Field trips to local industries will enhance the classroom instruction. All students, grades 10-12, are encouraged and welcome to take this course.

Woodworking

Woodworking is a one-semester course in which each student will obtain the knowledge and skill to produce a specific cabinet design. Proper use of hand and power tools will be presented. Safety practices and lab maintenance will be emphasized. (Fee: \$75.00 for materials.)

Foods

This one semester course combines the study of nutrition and healthy eating with the opportunity to plan, prepare and enjoy some basic recipes and foods. Making wise food choices and basic food preparation skills are emphasized in the course, along with current issues in nutrition. No experience in cooking is necessary. All students, male and female, grades 9-12, are encouraged to take this class.

Bible

Bible I

This one-semester (non-doctrinal) course for freshmen is a survey study of the Old Testament, which is not only theological and historical in scope, but also practical in its application to the life of the students. Freshmen are required to complete ten hours of community service.

Bible II

This one-semester (non-doctrinal) course focuses on the study of Judaism during the Intertestamentary Period, themes from the gospels (Matthew or Luke), Acts which describes the growth of the early church, one of Paul's letters, and the history of the church from the first to the eleventh century. Sophomores are required to complete ten hours of community service.

Bible III

This one-semester course for juniors is a study of the cultural context of Jesus' ministry, 1st Corinthians and related doctrinal or ethical issues, and church history from the eleventh century to Martin Luther and the Reformation era. Juniors are required to complete fifteen hours of community service.

Bible IV

This one-semester course includes a study of the major worldviews that dominate the societal landscape within the contemporary culture. This study is largely apologetic, although considerable time is given to the history and development of these worldviews to demonstrate environments around which these ideas have emerged. Students will also learn how the church has and will continue to respond to these rather dynamic positions by engaging and studying the various manifestations of these worldviews within the culture

through a rather extensive and cumulative project. Seniors are required to complete fifteen hours of community service.

Fine Arts

Symphonic Band

All instrumental students are eligible for this full-year advanced course and may take the class by permission of the director. Members should be committed to serving God and others through music, and to pursuing individual and ensemble excellence. Students will play challenging music of all styles appropriate for band. Besides performing three major evening concerts each year, the band will participate in state band and solo and ensemble festivals, and high school and junior high assemblies. The band may also provide music for church and civic functions. The band marches in parades, including the Kalamazoo Christmas Parade, and, possibly, the Memorial Day parade. Attendance at all band functions is mandatory. If desired by band members and if appropriate instrumentation and scheduling allows, a jazz band may be formed which will perform in various venues. (Fees: \$20.00 - \$40.00 for shoes, shirt, etc.)

Chorale

This is a non-auditioned, full-year course for juniors and seniors, with some exceptions made for outstanding

sophomores. Continuation of sight-reading skills and good vocal production will be emphasized in this course. Music of a more challenging and diverse nature will be studied and performed. Students will have four concerts per year as well as other outside opportunities such as the Festival of Trees and the Kalamazoo Bach Festival.

Ambassadors

This is an auditioned group for 12-16 outstanding singer/musicians. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible to audition. Students selected for this group will be those who demonstrate a high level of accomplishment as singers, sight-readers and as committed choir members. There will be many outside performances including, but not limited to, Sunday evening church services, senior citizen gatherings, the Kalamazoo Bach Festival, the Festival of Trees, District 11 Solo & Ensemble, District 11 Pop and/or Chamber Festivals, school sporting events, and other opportunities as they present themselves. Music chosen for this group will range from Renaissance and other types of classical, to modern vocal

jazz and gospel music. Students chosen for this group will meet as a class but will also be part of the Chorale. All students chosen must have a flexible schedule and a high level of commitment to the group.

Basic Art

Basic Art is a one-semester introduction to the concepts and techniques used in creating works of art. The main emphasis of the class is on good composition, along with a lesser emphasis on art history and criticism. Students learn about the elements of art and the principles of design and work on a variety of small projects as well as three major projects in drawing, painting, and ceramics. Fee: \$5

Digital Media

Digital Media is a semester course focused on the creative possibilities of video, animation, and digital photography. Students will learn the fundamentals and techniques of using a camera, as well as photo manipulation and retouching. Students will also learn video production and post-production, including editing and enhancement. Students will use these skills to make creative, professional-looking productions.

Drawing

Drawing is a one-semester course designed to expose students to a variety of techniques, media, and subject matter in drawing. Different types of media include pencil, ink, and oil pastel. Still life, nature, and human figure drawing are some of the different subject matters covered. While developing good technique is the main emphasis of the class, students will also develop their own style and will begin to explore what it means to be a Christian artist. Prerequisite: Basic Art.

Ceramics

Ceramics and Sculpture is a one-semester course focusing on 3-dimensional artwork. Most work is done in clay, but other media may be explored as well. Sculpture techniques, hand-built pottery, and throwing on the wheel are all a part of this class. Students will also learn the basics of working with clay as a material, including firing and glazing. Prerequisite: Basic Art.

Painting

Painting is a one-semester course focusing on a variety of painting techniques and subject matter. Watercolor and acrylic will be the main types of media used. Students will learn to use color to create contrast, depth, and texture in their composition. Students will also explore the historical context of painting in order to better understand and develop their own style and creativity. Prerequisite: Basic Art.

Advanced Art

Advanced Art is a semester course for seniors who have taken at least two upper level art classes and want to explore certain media further. This class is intended to be more of an individual study for those students who excel at art and who may be interested in taking art courses at the college level. Students will design their own course of study and can choose to focus on a certain type of media or they can experiment with new things. Students taking this course must be self-motivated and have a strong work ethic. All materials will be provided by the instructor except for special projects which use materials that fall outside of our normal course of study.

Yearbook

The primary objective of this full-year course is the production of the yearbook. Through this, students gain a general knowledge of the business, planning, writing, photography, layout, and design of publishing the yearbook.

Foreign Language

Spanish I

In this one-year course, the student begins to work on the four basic language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), learning skills, and on specific techniques, which facilitate the acquisition of a new language. The grammar and vocabulary are taught in thematically organized chapters in which students learn to communicate about their own lives. This course introduces basic grammar, syntax, pronunciation, spelling, and vocabulary. It also covers aspects of Hispanic cultures around the world. Videos, CD's and partner activities during class time are teaching methods used to enhance the hard work required to learn a new language. Students must be willing to spend some time each day studying Spanish.

Spanish II

This is the second course of the Novice level of Spanish. Emphasis is placed on the more complex grammatical structures, enabling the student to communicate in the past and compound tenses. Two short novels will be read this year. The class is conducted in Spanish as much as possible. Active participation of the student in class is required. Prerequisite: Spanish I with a "C" (or better) average, or permission of instructor.

Spanish III

This course is the beginning of the Intermediate level of Spanish. There will be a quick, comprehensive review of previously studied language skills. Emphasis at this level is on the improvement of communication and written skills. The subjunctive mood is presented in detail. Two short novels are read. Social justice issues of Latin America are explored through readings and video. Prerequisite: Spanish II with a "C+" or better average, or permission of the instructor.

Spanish IV

This course is offered depending on student numbers and teacher availability. The completion of this course may exempt students from further language study at some universities. Depending on their mastery of the language, many students interested in pursuing a major or minor in Spanish receive college credits for the courses out of which they test. This class is equivalent to the intermediate college level course. A variety of resources are used to present themes of cultural diversity, social issues, and understanding of peoples. Prerequisite: Spanish III with a "C+" or better, or permission of the instructor.

Latin I

The first year of Latin, a two-semester course, introduces the student to the rich Roman language, grammar, culture, and history. Great emphasis is placed upon vocabulary building through derivative study. Latin readings are of Roman legends and culture. Mottoes, expressions, prayers, and songs are learned in the Latin to encourage the speaking of this ancient tongue.

Latin II

Second year Latin, a two-semester course, begins with a thorough review of first-year Latin. Continued emphasis will be placed upon vocabulary building, grammatical constructions, and translations of myths, legends, and historical events. Prerequisite: Latin I.

Latin III

This full-year course begins with a review of second-year grammar and vocabulary. Vocabulary study is continued and grammar is completed with a focus on the use of the subjunctive mood. Students translate more challenging Latin myths, legends, and historical events. Prerequisite: Latin II.

Latin IV

Latin IV is the possible 4th year of Latin study. Focus of the course will be on practicing the translation of historical authors. A review of grammar, vocabulary, and historical events will be accomplished through this translation. This course will be offered depending on student numbers and teacher availability. Prerequisite: Latin III

Language Arts

Freshman English

Freshman English is a one-year course integrating studies of reading skills, writing skills, grammar structure, and literary forms. A research paper will be required. A review of grammar and mechanics is included in the course. A variety of literary forms will be studied, including a play and a novel. Required of all freshmen.

Speech

Speech is a one-semester required course that fulfills an English credit. Students study communication as a gift from God and learn more about how to communicate effectively with others around them. Students give a variety of speeches, from informational to persuasive. The class stresses the importance of good preparation for public speaking as well as delivery skills. Prerequisite: Freshman English

American Literature

This one-semester required course will study the many voices that have expressed and shaped the American character. These voices include the oral tradition of Native Americans, the Puritan tradition, writings of the Age of Reason, Romanticism, Realism, and Naturalism. Students will write a research paper on an American author, work, or movement. Prerequisites: Freshman English

Media Literacy

Media Literacy is a one-semester required English course. During the semester, students study media in a variety of forms, including music, movies, television, advertising and internet. Through a combination of readings, projects, lectures, discussion and examples, students develop a better understanding of the media business. They learn how different types of media communicate as well as how to both engage and participate in the media from a Christian perspective.

World Literature

This one semester course will be a required junior level English course beginning with the class of 2010. This course focuses on the common thread of humanity that connects the literature of various cultures and time-periods. We will examine, interpret and analyze both the original social and historical context of these works and how they can be applied to our present day life. We will examine literature from Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East so that we can hear these voices and perspectives and open our world to the world of the Other. Prerequisites: Freshman English, Speech, and American Literature.

Advanced Composition

The focus of this one-semester course is expository prose – the most common fare in college assignments. Students will read, analyze, and compose essays. A review of grammar and a research paper are included. Recommended for any student who will attend college and who is not taking A.P. English. Prerequisites: Freshman English, Speech, and American Literature.

Advanced Placement English

This one-year, senior course in composition and literature has an emphasis on critical reading of the major works of Western Civilization. Students will come away with the skills necessary to independently interpret and analyze literary works and will be prepared to take the Advance Placement examination for possible college credit. There will be a short novel for summer reading and three independent studies during the school year. Prerequisites: Freshman English, Speech, and American Literature.

Bestsellers

This one-semester elective course involves reading 5-7 contemporary, popular novels. Students will discuss and write about their reading, with an emphasis on developing Christian discernment. A list of possible bestsellers for the course will be available to students and parents before the term of study. Prerequisites: Freshman English, Speech, and American Literature.

Drama

Drama is a one-semester elective that fulfills an English credit. Drama is a highly interactive class that centers on performance and involves many aspects of theatre including preparation, improvisation, character development and analysis. Students are given multiple opportunities to participate in theatre and perform both individually as well as in groups. Students of all levels and interests can participate. Students are encouraged to attend at least one theatrical performance outside of class.

Creative Writing

This one-semester elective course concentrates on the techniques of imaginative writing. The student writer will receive practice in various forms of poetry, the descriptive sketch, and short fiction. Models of creative writing from many different sources will be used, and all phases of the writing process, including prewriting and revision, will be stressed. No research paper is required. Prerequisites: Freshman English, Speech, and American Literature.

Mathematics

Algebra

A full-year course which studies the fundamental concepts of the numbers of arithmetic and their related operations. A student will learn the necessary skills to solve linear and quadratic equations, linear inequalities, and systems of equations and inequalities in two variables. An appreciation for precision in mathematical language is generally stressed. The Texas Instruments TI-82 or 83 calculator is required. (TI-83 is preferred) Prerequisite: Recommendation of Math Department.

Geometry -AH

A full-year course in which the student studies the basic properties of various mathematical figures such as lines, planes, angles, triangles, and circles. Students will be challenged to

use various types of logical thinking skills especially in developing methods to prove mathematical statements. Algebraic skills will also be strengthened. This course is designated AH (Accelerated Honors) due to the accelerated pace at which material is covered, the in-depth way in which topics are examined, and the number of topics which are studied. Prerequisite: recommendation of the 8th grade math teacher.

Geometry

Geometry is a full-year course which studies the basic properties of two and three dimensional shapes; including but not limited to, points, lines, angles, polygons, circles, prisms and pyramids. Formal proof, algebraic skills and trigonometry are also studied during the year. Prerequisite: completion of Algebra I or the two-year algebra sequence.

Advanced Algebra - AH

This full-year course includes an in-depth study of linear, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Formal math proofs are introduced when studying trigonometry. Other topics covered in this course include systems of equations, matrices, quadratic relations, and sequences. There is emphasis on using math to model real life situations. This course is designated AH (Accelerated Honors) due to the accelerated pace at which material is covered, the in-depth way in which topics are examined, and the number of topics which are studied. The Texas Instruments TI-82 or 83 calculator is required.

Advanced Algebra

This full-year course includes a study of linear, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Other topics covered in this course include systems of equations, matrices, quadratic relations, arithmetic and geometric sequences, and math modeling. The properties of numbers, graphs, expressions, equations, inequalities, and functions are ideas that run throughout the course. The Texas Instruments TI-82 or TI-83 calculator is required. Prerequisites: Geometry.

Functions-Statistics-Trigonometry (FST)

A full-year course primarily for college-bound students and a preparation for further study in any area in which mathematics is encountered including calculus, the physical sciences, the social sciences and business. Previous work with linear, quadratic, logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometric and circular functions are extended, often with the aid of technology. In addition, probability and statistics, an increasingly important subject to know, is interwoven

throughout the course. There is a great emphasis on applications and modeling of real-world situations. The Texas Instruments TI-82 or TI-83 calculator is required.
Prerequisite: Advanced Algebra.

Pre-Calculus-AH

Pre-Calculus is a full year prerequisite course for calculus. It is offered to juniors who have completed Honors Advanced Algebra or seniors who have completed FST. Pre-calculus reviews all topics covered in advanced algebra and provides an in depth understanding of concepts and mathematical thinking necessary for calculus. Students learn the properties, algebra, graphs, and language of functions. Extended topics include conic sections, parametric equations, vectors, polar coordinates, sequence and series, and inferential statistics.

AP Calculus

A full-year course primarily for those students in the accelerated math program who have completed the traditional four years of high school math by the end of their junior year. The course begins with a review of algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions and the concept of limits. The remainder of the course is spent developing the differential and integral calculus. Students will be prepared for, but not required to take, the Advanced Placement examination for possible college credit. (Approximately \$85.00 for A.P. Exam, if taken.) After the AP exam, the class will read, review, and write a paper on James Nickel's book, *Mathematics: Is God Silent?* Prerequisite: Advanced FST

Science

Health/Physical Education

This full-year course concurrently incorporates physical education and health. Personal physical fitness will be measured and evaluated with emphasis placed on achievement, self-improvement, and learning habits for lifetime fitness. Class activities will also include team and individual sports. The student will be responsible for learning the rules, strategies, and scoring techniques of a sport as well as the physical skills. Health includes topics such as the definition and description of health and the ideas and activities that are included in healthy behavior and lifetime fitness. Methods used are lecture, demonstration, student exploration, and film study.

Advanced Physical Education

Advanced Co-ed Physical Education is a one-semester course emphasizing the importance of lifetime fitness. The main focus will be on leisure and recreational sports, such as: bowling, tennis and racquetball. Emphasis is on personal improvement and achievement. (Fees: \$85.00 for activities.) Prerequisite: Physical Education

Fundamentals of Athletic Training

This unique course offers the health career-minded students an opportunity to explore an increasingly popular profession, Sports Health Care. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors, this course incorporates lecture, research and hands-on training. Every student is required to fulfill a time commitment with our athletic teams. The course meets every day for a full year and students may repeat it up to 3 years. Prerequisite: an interest in science and sports health care, and a GPA above 2.0.

Physical Science

This required 9th grade course provides the student with an introduction to high school level chemistry and physics, followed by a more in-depth study of earth and space science. The full-year course begins with a Nature of Science unit in which a Christian perspective on science is developed. The Physical Science content is designed to be foundational to all the other offerings in the science curriculum.

Biology

This required, full-year course provides a general study of many areas of biology including ecology, the five kingdoms, photosynthesis/respiration, human anatomy and physiology, cells, genetics, molecular biology, biotechnology, life origins, botany, and zoology. Students learn through a variety of means including hands-on labs and activities in addition to lecture. Required of all sophomores. Prerequisite: Physical Science

Environmental Science

The Environmental Science class has three main goals. The first is to gain an understanding and appreciation for God's created order. The second goes along the lines of stewardship, learning both how we affect our environment and how our environment can affect us. The last objective aims at learning environmental principles to equip oneself to deal with environmental issues and problems in a responsible and genuinely Christian manner. Main focuses of study include ecosystems and animal interactions, human interactions with the environment such as waste, pollution, energy use, climate change and population growth, as

well as human interactions with living things like agriculture, endangered species and biodiversity. Prerequisite: Biology, Physical Science

Chemistry

This full-year study of the structure and properties of matter exposes students to God's intricate design for the world at the atomic and molecular level. Topics emphasized in the course include atomic theory, the periodic table, chemical bonding, molecular architecture, the mole, stoichiometry, equilibrium, and acid-base chemistry. Students learn through a variety of means including exploration, activities, and labs. Prerequisite: Physical Science and Geometry

Physics

This full-year study of Newtonian physics, heat, sound, light, electricity, and magnetism, exposes students to the many laws of nature designed by God for the well-being of the universe. Emphasis is placed on both conceptual understanding and mathematical interpretation of the physics topics. Students planning a career in a science-related area should take Physics because of the foundational framework it offers for future study. Students in this class will also be challenged to formulate their understanding of the relationship between Christianity and Science. Prerequisite: Physical Science and Advanced Algebra

Physiology

Human Anatomy and Physiology deals with a detailed study of the various parts of the body and their functions. We view the human body as a created entity of extreme complexity and as the Temple of the Holy Spirit. The lecture-demonstration method of teaching is used along with much visual aid material. The course is one semester in length. Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry (or Chemistry taken concurrently with Physiology)

Advanced Placement Biology

This full-year college-level course provides an in-depth study in selected areas of biology including ecology, biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology, genetics, botany, life origins, zoology, anatomy, and physiology. Methods of study include lecture and labs (both prepared and student-designed) along with reading of the text. Lab activities will allow students to apply information presented in lecture as well as to learn some of the basic techniques introduced in the college biology lab. Students who complete this course are

expected to take the Advanced Placement exam for college credit. Prerequisite: Physical Science, Biology and Chemistry

Social Studies

World History

World History is a full-year course required of all sophomores covering human history from the beginning of recorded history through modern times. While a significant period of time is spent on Western Civilization, the history of all major cultures is surveyed. Special emphasis is placed on understanding the role of these cultures within the created order and God's Universal Kingdom.

U.S. History

United States History is a two-semester course required of all Juniors covering the period of Native American settlement of North America and later European arrival through the Cold War and Civil Rights Period. Special emphasis is placed on the development of the American nation called the United States, its ideological foundations, and their relation to Biblical standards of a just society. The history of America's internal development as well as its relation with the rest of the world will be explored within the framework of Biblical principles.

Advanced Placement United States History

This A.P. U.S. History course is a two-semester honors class taught in place of the regular U.S. History class. Material covered is similar to the regular U.S. History class but in greater depth with additional readings and some emphasis on historiography. The class concludes with an optional college-level test, which, if passed, will result in college credit at most colleges and universities. (Approximately \$85.00 for AP Exam, if taken) Prerequisite: Staff approval.

Government

A one semester class on the constitution and federal government structure in order to understand the influence of government in our lives, our own participation in it, and understand philosophy behind government, including a special emphasis on how a Christian should view the interaction between faith and politics. Required for seniors. Prerequisite: US History

Advanced Placement Government

AP Government is an introductory college-level course in U.S. Government and politics that is one semester in length. The course deals with general theories as well as specific examples of how various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas work together to form our political system. Topics of political analysis include Constitutional underpinnings, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, mass media, Congress, the Presidency, Supreme Court, and more.

Sociology

A one semester class that focuses on how people interact with each other, including the topics of groups, culture, and class structure. Special focus is given to race, gender, social class and global class structure. An emphasis on Christian responsibility in understanding these issues is also integral. May be taken by Juniors or Seniors. No prerequisites.

Psychology

A one semester class introducing the study of the human mind and behavior. Different theories of psychology serve as the framework, including neurobiological, behavioral, psychodynamic, and cognitive, among others. May be taken by Juniors or Seniors. No prerequisites.