

ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26



Graduation Requirements

Beginning with the 2028 graduating class, all high school students must complete at least 25 credits in order to graduate and must complete the listed courses each year in the table below. Diplomas will only be awarded to students who have successfully completed the foregoing course requirements and whose financial (including the payment of tuition and fees), disciplinary and any other obligations to the school have been satisfied in full. Students with extenuating circumstances will be reviewed by the school administration.

Ninth Grade	Tenth Grade	Eleventh Grade	Twelfth Grade
6.5 Required Credits	6.5 Required Credits	6.5 Required Credits	5.5 Required Credits
1.0 Lit & Comp	1.0 Lit & Comp	1.0 Lit & Comp	1.0 Lit & Comp
1.0 Ancient History	1.0 Early Modern	1.0 Late Modern	0.5 American Government (Fall)
			0.5 Economics (Spring)
0.6 Bible	0.6 Bible	0.6 Bible	2.0 Senior Seminar*
1.0 Conceptual Physics	1.0 Conceptual Chemistry	1.0 Biology	
1.0 Algebra I or Geometry	1.0 Geometry or Algebra II	1.0 Algebra II or Pre-Calc	Calculus (Optional)
0.4 Speech and Logic	0.4 Speech	0.4 Speech	
1.5 Elective	1.5 Elective	1.5 Elective	1.5 Elective
End of 9th Grade: 6.5 Credits	End of 10th Grade: 13 Credits	End of 11th Grade: 19.5 Credits	End of 12th Grade: 25 Credits

^{*}The Senior Seminar is the final integration of students' education at Billings Christian School. Throughout the year, students are engaged in a series of activities that will prepare them for life after graduation. Examples include a unit on financial literacy, college and career planning, reading and discussing Mere Christianity, and writing two position papers on topics central to public life as a Christian. The course will culminate in a major thesis project that includes a paper and a presentation and defense. More than a research paper, students are required to complete extensive reading on a subject of interest, take a position regarding a controversial aspect of that subject, and develop an articulate and cohesive argument to support the claim. The presentation and defense are made before a panel of faculty members who ask each student questions to challenge and clarify their ideas. The Literature & Composition and Speech classes in 9 th, 10th, and 11 th grade will serve to prepare students for this capstone project, so the course will not be fully implemented until the 2026-27 academic year.

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OVERVIEWS

REQUIRED CORE SUBJECTS: BIBLE

Bible 9: 0.6 credit, required for all Freshman, pre-requisite courses: none

This course reveals the Bible as the true story of what God is doing to glorify himself by redeeming his fallen creation. Students will explore Acts, the Epistles, and Revelation. The book of Acts covers Christ's role in the redemptive storyline of the development of his church. The Epistles show students the truths that ground believers and allow them to live out the Great Commission until Christ returns—these truths are the doctrinal propositions and applicational imperatives of Christianity. Finally, the students will see the climactic fulfillment of his triumph over all things in Revelation. Designed to depart from the traditional lecture method of Bible classes, this course uses multiple teaching strategies and learning styles, all focused on clear daily objectives.

<u>Bible 10</u>: 0.6 credit, required for all Sophomores, pre-requisite courses: none

This course explores doctrines in all the major doctrinal categories to help students apply principles of Bible study so they can learn how to formulate doctrinal positions according to biblical teaching and apply those positions to their own lives. Students' beliefs affect not only how they live in the world but also how they interact with their culture. With a strong foundation for a biblical worldview, students can go into the world confident in what they believe and why they believe it.

<u>Bible 11</u>: 0.6 credit, required for all Juniors, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is an examination of science, the arts, government, gender, and history using the lenses provided by the biblical storyline of creation, fall, redemption to encourage students to make positive and distinctively Christian contributions in God's world. This faith-centered approach focuses on developing a Christian worldview.

Senior Seminar: 2 credits, required for all Seniors (high school dual enrollment)

Senior Seminar serves as the capstone course in a Billings Christian School education, bridging students' academic experience with their future beyond graduation. This integrative course combines practical life preparation with deep intellectual and spiritual engagement, featuring units on financial literacy, college and career planning, and a thoughtful examination of C.S. Lewis's "Mere Christianity." Students will develop their critical thinking and argumentation skills through two position papers addressing contemporary issues from a Christian perspective. The cornerstone of the course is an extensive thesis project where students select, research, and defend a controversial topic of personal interest, culminating in both a written paper and an oral defense before a

faculty panel. Building upon the foundational skills developed in previous years' Literature, Composition, and Speech classes, this course challenges seniors to demonstrate mastery of research, writing, and rhetorical skills while articulating a biblical worldview in dialogue with contemporary culture, preparing them for thoughtful engagement as Christian citizens and scholars.

ENGLISH

9th Grade Literature: 1 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This 9th grade Literature course guides students through four classic works: *To Kill a Mockingbird, The Hiding Place, Julius Caesar*, and *Beowulf*, with each text studied for one quarter. Students develop critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills while analyzing literary elements and themes through a biblical worldview. The curriculum integrates literary analysis with spiritual application, examining topics like justice, discrimination, revenge, and morality through both literary and biblical lenses. Students practice essay writing, poetry memorization, and learn to identify literary devices while considering how the texts' themes relate to biblical principles and real-world applications.

10th Grade Literature: 1 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: English 9

This 10th grade Literature course spans four major literary works: Stephen Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage*, Elie Wiesel's *Night*, Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*. Through these texts, students will deepen their understanding of literary analysis by examining elements such as foreshadowing, hyperbole, characterization, and figurative language, while also exploring complex themes of courage, suffering, redemption, and justice through a biblical lens. Students will enhance their critical thinking and analytical skills by identifying static and dynamic characters, analyzing poetic devices such as imagery and symbolism, and assessing their impact on each work's overall composition. The curriculum includes quarterly poetry memorization and emphasizes both written and verbal expression, challenging students to engage with literature in ways that honor both academic excellence and spiritual growth.

11th Grade Literature: 1 Credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: English 10

This 11th grade American Literature course explores major works including The Scarlet Letter, Through Gates of Splendor, Hamlet, and various American short stories, with an optional honors track that includes Moby Dick. The curriculum examines how literature reflects American culture, history, and moral issues while developing students' critical reading and analytical skills. Through these texts, students explore themes of sin, redemption, morality, and faith, analyzing them through both literary and biblical perspectives. The course emphasizes independent reading and writing skills while examining how American literature engages with social, political, and spiritual questions throughout different periods of American history.

12th Grade Literature: 1 Credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: English 11

This senior-level British Literature course immerses students in classic works including Charles Dickens' Great Expectations, Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice, William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew, and Alan Paton's Cry, The Beloved Country. Students will explore themes such as social mobility, marriage, gender roles, forgiveness, and racial justice while examining their historical and cultural contexts. Students will develop advanced literary analysis skills by identifying and analyzing literary elements such as foreshadowing, flashbacks, and rhyme schemes. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking and discussion of cultural, social, historical, and political issues raised by the literature, all viewed through a biblical worldview that encourages students to consider how these works reflect and engage with Christian principles and teachings.

HISTORY

9th Grade: Ancient History: .5 Credit (Fall), offered every year

This course explores creation to medieval history, tracing the origins of civilizations, to the rise of the Roman Empire in 476 CE. By engaging with primary sources and historical narratives, students will gain insight into the moral and ethical dimensions of ancient societies and the ways in which faith has influenced human thought and behavior. With a special emphasis on the relevance of biblical values, the course fosters critical thinking, moral discernment, and the application of historical lessons to contemporary issues, empowering students to become informed and ethical citizens who can understand and glorify God through the study of the past.

9th Grade: Medieval History: .5 Credit (Spring), offered every year

Beginning prior to the fall of the Roman Empire, students will examine the achievements, innovations, and cultural contributions of civilizations like Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome through the lens of biblical teachings. As the course progresses into the medieval period, students will explore the development of medieval kingdoms, the spread of Christianity, and the rise of feudalism and chivalry, considering the enduring impact of biblical principles on medieval society and culture. The course concludes with the fall of Constantinople, marking the end of the medieval period and the transition into the Renaissance. Throughout this course, students will explore the relevance of biblical teachings and values in ancient and medieval contexts, challenging them to apply the moral and ethical lessons of the past to contemporary issues.

10th Grade: Western Civilizations I, Early Modern (1500-1850): 1 Credit, offered every year

This unit course examines Western Civilization from 1500 to 1850, a time marked by the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Scientific Revolution, and the Enlightenment. Students will explore how the interplay of faith, reason, and human progress shaped the cultural, political, and

intellectual developments that have profoundly influenced the modern world. Grounded in a Biblical perspective, students will critically analyze the social, political, and intellectual transformations of the period, discerning the enduring influence of faith and reason on human thought and behavior.

11th Grade: Western Civilizations II, Late Modern (1850-present): 1 Credit offered every year

This course explores the period of Western Civilization from 1850 to the present, a time marked by rapid industrialization, the rise of nationalism, the two World Wars, the Cold War, and the ongoing challenges of globalization. Students will examine how the political, economic, social, and technological developments of this era have profoundly shaped the modern world, while also considering the enduring influence of faith, reason, and human progress. Grounded in a Biblical perspective, students will critically analyze the social, political, and economic transformations of the modern era, discerning the enduring influence of faith and morality on human affairs

12th Grade: American Government: .5 Credit (Fall), offered every year

This course prepares students to be informed and empowered citizens who have a biblical perspective of government. Grounded in a Biblical worldview, students will examine the principles of governance articulated in the founding documents of the United States, gaining insight into the moral and ethical foundations upon which our government is built. In addition to exploring the historical development of the American government, students will engage with primary sources that are foundational to understanding how our government should operate. By critically analyzing documents such as the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and key Supreme Court decisions, students will develop the skills and habits of citizenship necessary to participate effectively in our democracy and uphold its principles.

12th Grade: Economics: .5 Credit, (Spring), offered every year

In this course, students will study the fundamental principles of economics, from household budgeting to the complexities of national economic systems, all through the lens of God's wisdom and guidance. In addition to exploring personal finance, students will also examine issues related to national economic systems and policies, considering questions of justice, equity, and the common good in light of Biblical teachings on social responsibility and economic justice. By engaging with diverse perspectives and ethical considerations, students will deepen their understanding of the role of economics in shaping individual lives, communities, and societies, and discern how to apply Biblical principles to economic decision-making in a complex and interconnected world.

MATH

Algebra I: 1 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course covers the key knowledge and skills needed to develop mathematical computation skills, problem-solving skills, and analytical thinking and reasoning skills. The material covered not only will enable students to gain further mathematical knowledge but also will prepare them for future standardized testing and for the next level of mathematics. This curriculum by Bob Jones University helps the students view mathematics from a Christian perspective with the hope that students see God's hand in all of mathematics and in His plan for the use of mathematics in the world around us.

Geometry: 1 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: Algebra I

Geometry involves the study of points, lines, planes, and other geometric figures as they relate to our physical world. Students will learn to measure and evaluate geometric figures and their areas and volumes; they will develop logic and inductive and deductive reasoning skills. The relationship between figures and properties that make figures unique will be developed and applied to real world situations. Constructions, Loci, and Coordinate Geometry will also be studied.

Algebra II: 1 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: Algebra I & Geometry

Algebra II emphasizes linear and quadratic expressions, equations, and functions. This course also introduces students to polynomial, rational, and exponential functions. Students explore the structures of and interpret functions and other mathematical models. Students build upon previous knowledge of equations and inequalities to reason, solve, and represent equations and inequalities numerically and graphically.

AP Pre-Calculus: 1 credit, pre-requisite courses: Algebra I, Geometry, & Algebra II

Pre-calculus completes the formal study of the functions begun in Algebra I and Algebra II. Students focus on modeling, problem solving, data analysis, trigonometric and circular functions and their inverses, polar coordinates, complex numbers, conics, and quadratic relations. Discrete topics include Proof by Induction and the Binomial Theorem along with sequences and series.

AP Calculus: 1 credit, prerequisite course: Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus is an introductory college-level calculus course. Students cultivate their understanding of differential and integral calculus through engaging with real-world problems represented geographically, numerically, analytically, and verbally using definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions as they explore concepts like change limits, and the analysis of funct

SCIENCE

9th Grade, Conceptual Physics: 1 credit, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is a basic introduction into the knowledge and skill sets needed to understand the physical world of motion and energy. The students are expected to understand and model mechanics, work and energy, periodic motion and waves, and the electromagnetic world they live in and operate within their creation mandate given to them by God.

10th Grade, Conceptual Chemistry: 1 credit, pre-requisite courses: none

This course introduces students to fundamental chemical principles through an accessible, conceptual approach that emphasizes real-world applications over complex mathematical calculations, while integrating a biblical perspective that recognizes God as the divine Creator and Sustainer of all matter and natural laws. Students explore core topics including atomic structure, periodic trends, chemical bonding, states of matter, chemical reactions, solutions, acids and bases, and basic organic chemistry, examining how these demonstrate both the order and complexity of God's creation.

Biology: 1 credit

Students will learn about cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and ecology. They will learn about the microscopic level of living organisms, the characteristics of life, processes of life, and different types of life. Students will investigate topics such as creation and evolution, human cloning, abortion, and stem cell research with a look to Scripture as the ultimate authority for a biblical perspective. In the laboratory portion of the course, students will perform experiments involving microscopy, dissection, etc. and utilize the scientific method to inquire into life. Students will create hypotheses, record data, evaluate results, and write scientific lab reports.

Advanced Biology: 1 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite course: Conceptual Chemistry

This course will provide an introduction to the field of biology, life processes common to plants and animals, cell structure and function, and an introduction to genetics, biochemistry, and development. Students will investigate the microscopic level of living organisms, the characteristics of life, processes of life, and biodiversity. Additionally, students will explore topics including human cloning, abortion, genetically modified organisms, and stem cell research with a look to Scripture as the ultimate authority for developing their perspective. In the laboratory portion of this course, students will perform experiments involving microscopy, dissection, etc., and utilize the scientific method to inquire into life. Students will examine important cellular principles as well as investigate and observe bacterial, protist, fungal, and plant organisms. Students will have the opportunity to observe first hand the Lord's intricate creation.

*Dual Credit option through Colorado Christian University (4 college credits)

Chemistry: 1 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite course: Conceptual Chemistry

This course is designed to develop the student's understanding of the material world around them as created by God at the fundamental level in relation to the elements, compounds and the energy exchanges exhibited in bonds and reactions. It required a skilled use of mathematical principles and the extensive use of models that include but not limited to quantum mechanics, orbital notation, thermodynamics and molecular orbital theory. We will study elements, compounds, reactions, gas laws, acid base equations and other concepts related to the chemistry of God's creation.

Physics: 1 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite course: Conceptual Physics

Students will explore major topics including mechanics (motion, forces, energy, and momentum), waves (sound and light), electricity and magnetism, and thermodynamics. Through hands-on experiments, mathematical problem-solving, and real-world applications, students will develop their analytical and critical thinking skills while discovering how physics explains everyday phenomena. The course emphasizes both quantitative and qualitative understanding, requiring students to apply algebraic and trigonometric concepts to physical scenarios. Laboratory work will help students develop important scientific skills including data collection, analysis, and experimental design. Throughout the course, students will explore how physics reveals the order and complexity of God's creation, integrating biblical perspectives with scientific principles to develop a deeper appreciation for the natural world and its Creator.

<u>Human Anatomy and Physiology</u>: 1 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite course: Conceptual Chemistry

Human Anatomy and Physiology will provide an overview of the human body organ systems and their structures and functions. Students will learn about diverse types of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, basic anatomy terms, overall physiological mechanisms, general biochemistry, and other fundamental concepts. The course will include basic biology including cell structures, overviews of different tissue types, and surveys of the integumentary system, skeletal system, muscular system, and nervous system. For each body system, students will investigate and study detailed anatomical structures and physiological processes. In the laboratory component, students will safely practice biological laboratory skills including dissection and better understand the complexity of each human. Students will additionally examine components of health and disease for personal understanding and/or a future medical career. Throughout the course, students will read, write, discuss, speak, critically think, evaluate theories, and discover God's incredible designs present during development and in the functions of the human body.

*Dual Credit option through Colorado Christian University (4 college credits)

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SPEECH

9th Grade Speech: 0.4 Credit

This foundational speech course introduces students to basic public speaking principles and communication skills through a Christian worldview. Students learn essential elements of speech preparation, delivery techniques, and audience analysis while developing confidence in speaking before groups. The curriculum covers informative speeches, demonstration speeches, and basic research skills, with emphasis on overcoming speaking anxiety and mastering fundamental verbal and nonverbal communication. Students practice speaking with clarity and purpose while learning how their communication can honor God and serve others.

10th Grade Speech: 0.4 Credit

Building on fundamental skills, this course deepens students' understanding of persuasive speaking and rhetorical techniques while maintaining a biblical perspective on truth and communication. Students develop more complex speeches including persuasive presentations, impromptu speaking, and group presentations. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, logical argument construction, and ethical persuasion while helping students understand how to advocate for their beliefs and values with grace and effectiveness. Enhanced focus is placed on research, organization, and delivery techniques that engage audiences meaningfully.

11th Grade Speech: 0.4 Credit

This advanced course challenges students to master sophisticated forms of public address including formal debates, impromptu speaking, and analytical presentations. Students learn to address complex social and ethical issues from a Christian worldview while developing skills in argumentation, refutation, and audience adaptation. The curriculum emphasizes leadership through communication, advanced research methods, and the integration of multimedia elements in presentations. Students also explore the relationship between faith, ethics, and public discourse while practicing professional speaking techniques.

ELECTIVES:

ART

Art I: 0.4 or 0.6 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course covers elements and principles of art and design, color theory, and composition styles. It provides an overview of many different art materials, giving the fundamentals of drawing, painting, and sculpture. This course introduces students to the basics of self-evaluations and group critiques

Art Studio 0.6 or 0.4 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: Art I

This course builds on skills learned in Art I. There is a greater focus on developing concepts and creative thinking. This course teaches students the basics to building an artist's portfolio with greater emphasis on developing the student's own style and creative process. Students also will learn how to draft documents such as an artist biography and statements for their artwork.

LANGUAGE

Spanish I: 1 credit, offered every year online, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is the introductory course in the Spanish language and culture. Students develop speaking, writing, reading, and listening skills in Spanish around topics related to the everyday life of a student.

Spanish II: 1 credit, offered every year online, pre-requisite courses: Spanish I

This course is designed to build on vocabulary, grammar, and culture learned in Spanish I. The course objective is to further develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in Spanish in order to communicate in the target language.

MUSIC

Concert Band/ Orchestra: 0.6 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is an intermediate-level class designed to further build on the skills and knowledge learned and practiced in junior high. Students with no prior band experience may enroll in Concert Band upon director approval. Students will be challenged to further develop their God given talents and abilities through a higher level of musical study, repertoire, practice, and performance opportunities.

Concert Choir: 0.6 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is an intermediate-level class designed to further build on the skills and knowledge

learned and practiced in junior high choir classes. Students with no prior choir experience may enroll in Concert Choir upon director approval. Students will be challenged to further develop their God-given talents and abilities through a higher level of musical study, repertoire, practice, and performance opportunities.

Intermediate (Select) Choir: 0.4 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course is an intermediate-level class designed to further build on the skills and knowledge learned and practiced in junior high choir classes. Only students with previous choir experience and an acceptable audition may enroll in Select Choir upon director approval. Students will be expected to perform advanced repertoire. Their God-given talents and abilities will be developed through this higher level of musical study, repertoire, practice, and performance opportunities.

<u>Jazz Band</u>: 0.4 credit, offered every year

The BCS HS Jazz Band will build upon the foundational principles of regular band with jazz musical concepts such as: Playing melodies with Swing Feel (Triplet eighth notes) & Soloing/Improvisation over jazz tunes. These concepts will be demonstrated by learning musical repertoire such as Blues, Medium Swing, Jazz Waltz, Bossa Nova, & Bebop tunes.

OTHER ELECTIVES (alphabetical)

Basketball: 0.4 or 0.6 credit, offered every year

This course develops both fundamental skills and advanced gameplay strategies while fostering leadership, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Students will master essential techniques including proper shooting form, ball handling, passing, defensive positioning, and rebounding through progressive skill-building exercises and drills. The curriculum covers offensive strategies (pick and roll, motion offense, fast breaks), defensive formations (man-to-man, zone defenses, full-court press), and game situations (inbound plays, free throws, clock management). Students will learn basketball rules, referee signals, scorekeeping, and basic statistical analysis while developing their physical fitness through conditioning exercises and scrimmage play. Beyond the physical aspects, this course emphasizes character development, mental preparation, positive communication, and biblical principles of leadership and teamwork. Students will understand how to balance competitive drive with good sportsmanship, learning to honor God through their athletic performance and conduct both on and off the court.

Christian Leadership: 0.6 credit, offered every other year

This course equips students with biblical principles and practical skills for effective servant leadership in their communities, churches, and future careers. Students explore foundational leadership concepts through the study of biblical leaders, Jesus' model of servant leadership, and contemporary Christian leadership examples, while developing essential skills in communication,

decision-making, conflict resolution, and team building. The curriculum integrates biblical teachings with practical applications, examining topics such as spiritual disciplines, character development, ethical decision-making, vision casting, and mentoring relationships. Through hands-on projects, community service opportunities, and leadership exercises, students learn to identify and develop their God-given gifts while understanding their responsibilities as Christian leaders who influence others through humility, integrity, and purposeful service. The course emphasizes both personal spiritual growth and the practical aspects of leading others in a way that honors God and advances His kingdom.

Engineering Design: 0.6 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite courses:none

This semester-long course will allow students to use applied scientific principles, mathematics, and the engineering design process to solve real world design problems. Students will learn to identify a problem, research and determine constraints and criteria for solution, brainstorm solutions, select the best solution, create a model/prototype, test the prototype, improve the design, etc. While learning and applying the process, students will explore applications of 3D printed designs in engineering, architecture, and product development, master computer design software, and create their own 3D printed items!

STEM I (Coding and Robotics): 0.4 or 0.6 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none, limited to first-time STEM students, must take first semester in order to take second semester

The first semester is an introductory course in computer coding. The language is python. There are approximately 24 assignments all based on developing working code to achieve a specific outcome. The second semester is an introductory course in robotics.

<u>Unraveling the Mysteries of the Universe</u>: 0.4 credit, offered every other year; pre-requisite courses: none

In this year-long course, students will examine the complexity of the solar system, the Earth, and the animals and living organisms thriving on our planet. By studying phenomena, gathering evidence through experimentation, and evaluating scientific theories, students will explain the evidence of design within our universe and deepen their appreciation of God and His incredible creation! Student interest will help determine the exact course content studied within each unit.

Weightlifting & Conditioning: 0.6 or 0.4 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: PE

The student will learn to safely use the weight room, facilities, and gymnasium. The course provides the student with the knowledge and ability to execute basic training skills and strategies associated with each activity. The course will introduce beginner, intermediate, and advanced training techniques.

Yearbook: .4 credit, offered every year, pre-requisite courses: none

This course helps produce the BCS yearbook. In this course, students will gain skills in the

following areas: page design, publishing techniques, copywriting, editing, photography, record keeping, time management, teamwork, marketing, and leadership skills. Students are tasked with producing a timeless, creative, and innovative publication which will record our school's community, memories, and events.