



LACS HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMICS 2021-2022 CURRICULUM

Los Altos Christian Schools offers curriculum which is based on a Christian perspective of education. We feel it is important to integrate scriptural principles and biblical threads into each area of subject matter. We continually research a variety of curriculums and have selected materials that will offer your child a high-quality academic education, centered on the principles of God's Word.

HIGH SCHOOL

Four -Year Course Plan

	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12 th GRADE	LACS Gradu on Requirements 240 Required	US/CSU 'a-g" Course Subject Area Requirements 150 Required
History		Modern World History, Culture & Geography	U.S. History	American Government & Civics (1 Semester) Economics (1 Semester)	30 credits	2 years minimum
English	English 9: Literature & Composition	English 10: World Literature & Composition	English 11: American Literature & Composition	English 12: British Literature & Composition	40 credits	4 years required
Math	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 Pre-Calculus	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 Pre-Calculus	Algebra 1 Geometry Algebra 2 Pre-Calculus Calculus	40 credits	3 years required 9through Algebra 2 (4 years recommended through Pre-Calculus)
Science	Ecology: Marine Biology Environmental Sciences	Biology- With lab	Chemistry- With lab	Physics- With lab	40 credits	UC: 1 Biological science, 1 physical science required. CSU: Take Biology and chemistry/ physics. 4 Years lab science recommended
Foreign Language	Spanish 1 ASL 1	Spanish 2 ASL 2	Spanish 3		20 credits (30 of the same language recommended)	2 years of the same language required 3 years recommended
Visual & Performing Arts			TBD	TBD	10 credits	1 Yearlong course required
Elective			TBD	TBD	10 credits	1 Yearlong course required
Bible	Bible 9: Introduction to Biblical Interpretation	Bible 10: The Life & Teachings of Jesus	Bible 11	Bible 12	30 Credits	N/A
PE	P.E./Strength & Conditioning	P.E./Strength & Conditioning Spartan After school sports			20 Credits	N/A

ENGLISH 9

English 9 focuses on reading, writing, vocabulary and oral communication. Students learn from a variety of texts including short stories, novels, and poetry. Focus and attention is given to the writing process, to develop skilled, confident writers, starting with the foundation of the sentence, building to paragraphs, organizing essays, to editing and elaboration. Students demonstrate their knowledge through personal narratives, compare-contrast essays, and research reports.

- ◇ Grade 9, Course Length: 1 year
- ◇ Textbook(s): myPerspectives 9 by Pearson, Wordly Wise 9, Step-Up-To- Writing, Novels
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion English 8

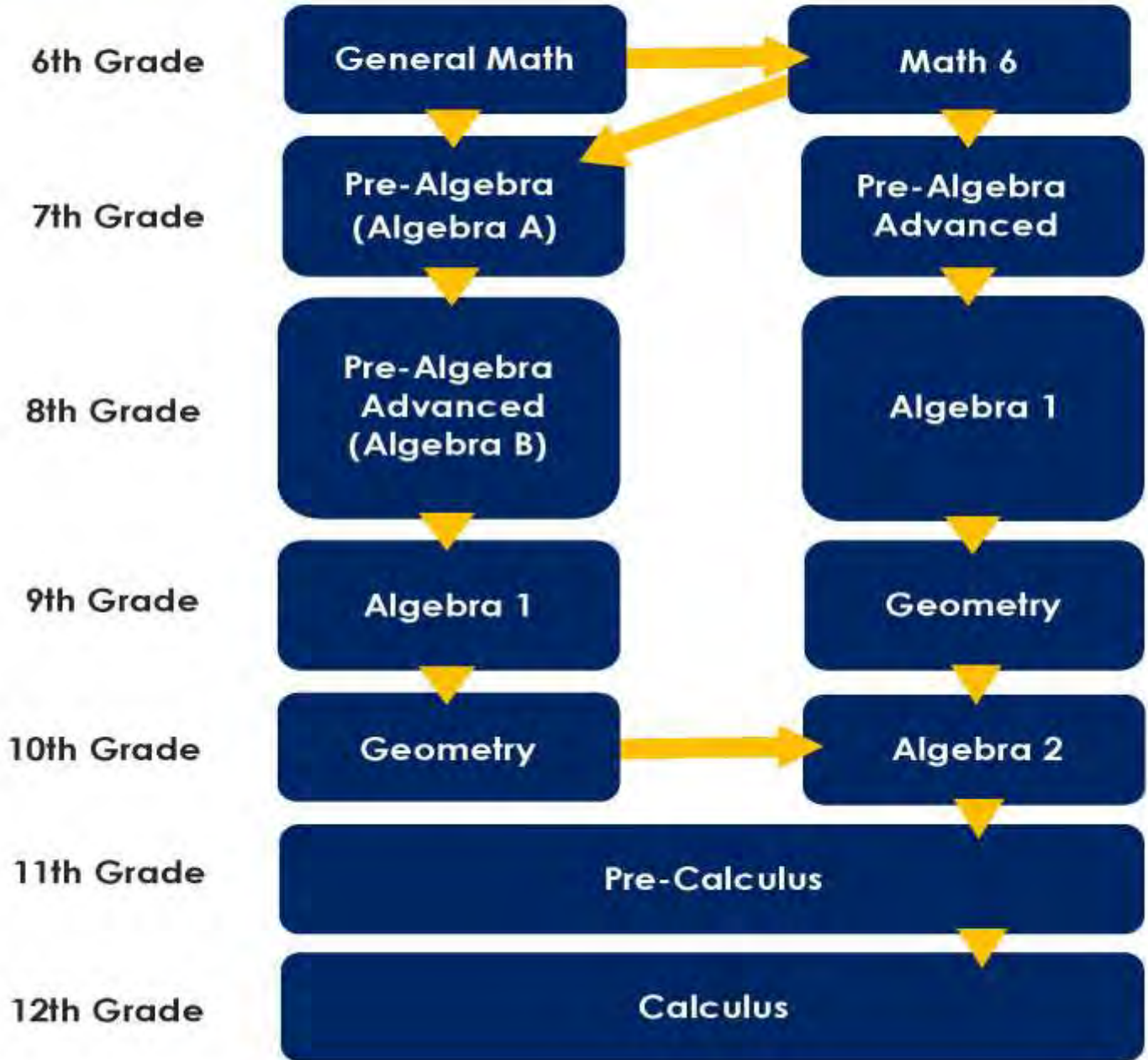
ENGLISH 10: WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

The goal of this class is to develop mature literary comprehension skills, writing, vocabulary and oral communication . By exploring a variety of different novels from different genres the students will broaden their reading horizons. Students are expected to participate well in class discussions and read the assigned texts on a deeper level.

- ◇ Grade 10, Course Length: 1 year
- ◇ Textbook(s): myPerspectives 10 by Pearson, Wordly Wise 10, Step-Up-To- Writing, Novels
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 9

HIGH SCHOOL

MATH



- Students will take math every year.
- The paths shown are typical ones that may be followed by students.
- Generally students will remain on their path.
- Placement will be decided year to year based on student performance, evaluations, and teacher recommendation.

MATH 6

Students learn to solve problems, increase computational competence and build critical thinking skills. Skills in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, decimals, measurement, percentage, factoring, ratio, fractions and basic geometry are reviewed and expanded. Beginning Algebra concepts are integrated.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Textbook: California SAXON Math Course 1
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of fifth grade math, test scores, teacher recommendation, and parent input.

PRE-ALGEBRA A

Students work, write and simplify numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expression. They focus on developing problem-solving strategies, especially on writing equations that require the use of signed numbers and several inverse operations for solutions. Emphasis is placed on the use of variables in equations and expressions. Operations containing decimals, fractions, exponents, ratios, and percentages are taught. This is the first half of a two-year course in pre-algebra concepts. A student must complete both halves of the course to move to Algebra I.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Text: California Pre-Algebra, Prentice Hall, 2009
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of Math 6, teacher recommendation

PRE-ALGEBRA B

Students complete their work on introductory algebraic concepts. Emphasis is placed on the linear functions and graphing, spatial thinking, area and volume, irrational numbers, and data analysis. This is the second half of a two-year course in pre-algebra concepts. A student must complete both halves of the course to move to Algebra I.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Text: California Pre-Algebra, Prentice Hall, 2009
- ◇ Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Algebra A, teacher recommendation

PRE-ALGEBRA ADVANCED

Students work with numerical expressions as well as introductory algebraic expression. They also explore operations that use fractions, exponents, ratios, proportions, and percents. The class will also work on linear functions and graphing, spatial thinking, work with irrational numbers and nonlinear functions, introduce basic geometric concepts, and focus on application and critical thinking skills.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Text: California Pre-Algebra, Prentice Hall, 2009
- ◇ Prerequisites: yearlong high-class performance in sixth grade math, high-standardized test math scores, teacher recommendation, parental permission. Students must maintain a yearly average of 85% or higher to remain in the class.

ALGEBRA

This course is designed to sharpen skills that use variables with whole numbers, signed numbers, decimals and fractions. Students will be introduced to polynomials, functions, algebraic functions and the quadratic formula. There is an emphasis on learning strategies for solving work problems.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Text: Algebra, CA edition, Prentice Hall, 2009
- ◇ Prerequisites: successful completion of Pre-Algebra, high-standardized test math scores, teacher recommendation and parental permission. Students must maintain a yearly average of 85% or higher to remain in the class.

GEOMETRY

This honors course includes learning the language of geometry, studying parallel and perpendicular lines, congruence and similarity, special right triangle relationships and trigonometric ratios. Students gain skill in logical thinking by exposure to conditional statements, indirect proofs and two-column proofs. This course will involve studying area, perimeter, surface area and volume of a variety of geometric shapes. This is a high school level course.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Text: Geometry, Prentice Hall, 2009
- ◇ Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra with an 85% average or higher, proficiency test, high-standardized test math scores, parental permission and teacher recommendation. This is an honors class for 8th grade.

MARINE BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES 9

The focus of this course is on Marine Science. In addition to hands-on laboratories, cyber labs will be introduced to allow students to use electronic tools for data collection and analysis. In the lessons of this curriculum, students use real-time and achieved authentic data for collection, interpretation, drawing conclusion and supporting ideas with evidence.

The Ocean is a great way to learn more about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) content and processes. *Marine Science-The Dynamic Ocean* is an integrated science course in which the science concepts are applied to authentic scientific settings, scenarios, and investigations. Students will simultaneously learn about life, Earth and physical sciences. Students will gain an understanding of the ocean and its processes, research and develop an understanding of human impacts on the ocean.

- ◇ Grade: 9, Course Length: 1 year
- ◇ Textbook: *Marine Science – The Dynamic Ocean* by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of Science 8

BIOLOGY WITH LAB 10

Biology is the study of living things and how they interact with the environment. Students will learn through reading, discussion, videos, research projects and hands on engagement. A large portion of this class focuses on applying what students are learning to lab work, which involves designing experiments, carrying them out, and making predictions.

The course is divided into eight units: living systems, carbon in the Earth system, ecosystem interactions and energy flow, evidence for evolution, mechanisms of inheritance, genetic variation and evolution, structure and function in living things, ecosystem stability and the response to climate change.

- ◇ Grade: 10, Course Length: 1 year
- ◇ *Science Fusion* by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of Science 9

MODERN WORLD HISTORY, CULTURE AND GEOGRAPHY 10

History 10 studies World History at a high level; ranging from the Pre-History to today, honing in on important people, ideas, and choices that affect us to this very day. Through reading, discussion, pictures, videos, hands-on engagement, students will experience History coming to life! With this newfound passion for the past, you will have opportunity to share your knowledge and practice oral communication, writing communication, and other forms of creative communication. Focus and attention is given to discussion tactics, study skills, presentation forms, Biblical mindset and integration, and the writing process.

- ◇ Grade: 10, Course Length: 1 year
- ◇ Textbook: My World Interactive – Textbook, My World Interactive – Active Journal
- ◇ Prerequisites: Successful completion of History 10

GRADE 9: INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION

Introduction to theology with special emphasis on learning to do theology, understand the doctrine of Scripture, introduce the integration various fields of knowledge with the Bible, and see the importance and development of a Christian worldview. Students will examine their academic disciplines through critical evaluation of the knowledge, skills, and values of the discipline according to Christian faith and practice.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Materials:
- ◇ Prerequisites:

GRADE 10: LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF JESUS

In Bible 10, the focus is on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. During this course, students will learn more about the Gospel, embark on biblical fluency, begin studying apologetics, and find Jesus in every single Book of the Bible. Students will discover how to bridge the gap between their heart and mind, be equipped to give a reason for their faith, and encounter God through His word.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Materials:
 - Bible (NASB, ESV, NKJV, NIV, NAB)
 - Essential Bible Background - Dr. J. Carl Laney
 - 100 Bible Verses Everyone Should Know Heart - Robert J. Morgan
 - 101 Facts & Foreknowledge - Jim Tetlow
 - Composition Note Book, Wide Ruled
- ◇ Prerequisites: Bible 9

HIGH SCHOOL

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

At LACS, we believe the study of foreign languages completes and improves a student's education while providing the foundation for further personal enrichment scholastic achievement and future economic opportunities. It also sharpens intellect, teaches reasoning and deduction, and hones in logic. Students that are introduced early to a bilingual world can become proficient over time

Research shows that learning a second language boosts problem-solving, critical-thinking, and listening skills, in addition to improving memory, concentration, and the ability to multitask. Children proficient in other languages also show signs of enhanced creativity and mental flexibility. As a result, Spanish is taught in our Elementary, Middle and High Schools. American Sign Language is taught in our Middle School.

Spanish 1

Spanish 1 builds on what has been taught during the middle school years. The main areas of focus for this course: FIVE C's: communication, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Learners will master a higher level of communication skills, spoken and written. They will develop language and cultures comparisons, and they can use the language enjoyment, enrichment and advancement. Geography will be a part of our course. It is our desire to introduce Missions work to Spanish speaking counties.

- ◇ Course length: 1 year
- ◇ Materials:
- ◇ Prerequisites:

ART Studio

Close your eyes and imagine you're standing in an art studio—the smell of paint, the feel of the brush, and the infinite creative possibilities that linger in the air. This is where art is born, and in Studio Art, you'll learn how to bring your art to life.

GARDENING & COOKING BASICS

Students learn the ins and outs of different types of planting and gardening and learn how to plan and design. Students are taught how to prepare and cook what has been grown in the garden.

INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALISM

Students conduct interviews, write short articles about interesting events and take photos accompany your writing in this weekly elective.

This election is an extension of writing instruction in the core classes for writers of all levels. Students explore a variety of ways writing is used in the world today. They have the opportunity to solidify and improve their fundamental writing skills in a way that is tailored to individual student needs and goals. Students also have the opportunity to use their writing as a means of creative expression.

KNITTING

In this class, you will learn the basics of knitting. You will complete a series of small projects with simple stitches. By the end of the course, you will be wearing a hat and scarf you created yourself.

LEARN TO PLAY UKULELE

Students progress through a full curriculum of skills, chords and strum patterns to over 30 songs including familiar folk songs like “You Are My Sunshine” to popular songs such as “Cups” by Anna Kendrick or “Count On Me” by Bruno Mars.

MATH LAB

Students have the opportunity to work on basic math facts, computation and problem solving skills. They will have the opportunity to review and preview skills being covered in their current math class.

SPEECH AND DEBATE

Students learn skills like **public speaking, cross-examination, and basic research** in order to construct sets of arguments and defend their position.

THE TECH CHALLENGE

This signature program of The Tech invites teams of students in Grades 4-12 to use the engineering design process to solve a real-world problem. Participants spend months collaborating and becoming deeply engaged in the challenge while documenting their progress and designs. The program culminates in an inspiring two-day showcase in April where teams put their solutions to the test in front of judges.

WEB PROGRAMMING

This elective focusses on developing three applications throughout the school year. Students learn web programming (html/css/javascript). This is a practical path teaching students the essential concepts necessary to drive software development and production of ideas. Students learn to develop features collaborate with colleagues, have the features tested and debugged. This provides students with the opportunity to gain experience presenting their product, to clearly communicate their ideas as well as to bring support and agreement.

The series consists of three classes - Build your own flashcard, Build your own Photoshop, and Build your own card maker. Upon completion of card maker, students can also launch community outreach through which they send cards to other community members they want to send messages.

TRAIL TREKKING

This is a course where students engage in various sports and Spartan challenges, offering opportunities to grow in athleticism and coordination, improve physical fitness, and learn about health and safety in pursuing athletic goals. Students are encouraged to enter Spartan Races.

HIGH SCHOOL

CHAPEL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

CHAPEL – WEEKLY CONNECTION

- Los Altos Christian High School has Chapel on Tuesday at 1:50 P.M.
- Mentorship Program
- Academic Electives:
 - ◇ 9-10th Grade: Community Service
 - ◇ 11-12th Grade: Senior Project and College Preparation

COMMUNITY SERVICE

stated in Mark 10:45:

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Community Service at LACS provides the opportunity for the student:

- to model Christ-like behavior through serving another
- to receive the blessing that comes from giving in the Name of Jesus
- to develop the lifelong spiritual discipline of serving Christ
- to prepare for High School where students develop a resume useful for college and career pursuits

9TH GRADE

5 hours per semester | 10 per year

10TH GRADE

5 hours per semester | 10 per year

11TH GRADE

15 per year

12TH GRADE

15 per year

SENIOR PROJECT

Senior projects **allow students to apply their knowledge and skills to practical situations.**

HIGH SCHOOL

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Co-curricular activities play an important role in the college application process, and in many vital areas leading up to graduation. Studies show there is a strong positive correlation between co-curricular activities and student attendance, GPA, overall test scores, educational goals, and future SAT scores. Remember, the PSAT starts in 10th grade.

We believe that academic and social success starts at a young age and builds through middle school, so we encourage all of our students to participate in co-curriculars to continue building a platform for college in the near future.