



# Middle School

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Course Catalog 2022-2023

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Mission/Core Values/Vision
2	Expected Students Outcomes (ESO's)
4	English
5	Math
6	Science
7	Social Studies
8	Design Technology
9	Bible
10	Physical Education (PE)
11	Electives

### Mission

Educating minds  
and transforming lives  
to impact the world for  
the glory of God

### Vision

Our authentic international  
educational community  
will serve as a gateway to  
purpose, empowering and  
equipping global learners to  
lead positive change

### Core Values

Academic Excellence  
Biblical Worldview  
Caring Community  
Personal Excellence

## Expected Student Outcomes

ICS's Expected Student Outcomes (ESOs) embody the characteristics we desire each student to grow in during their time at ICS, whether that time is for one semester or 14 years. ESOs are organized into three categories: interpersonal, curricular, and spiritual.

### Interpersonal

ICS students will recognize their personal uniqueness through demonstrating cultural sensitivity, developing a godly self-image, and living productively.

### Curricular

ICS students will demonstrate academic excellence by becoming critical thinkers, quality communicators, and problem solvers.

### Spiritual

ICS students will appreciate God and His word and develop biblical character by imitating Christ, modeling teachers, and obeying biblical authority.

## Appreciate God & His Word

When I read God's Word, I learn more about who He is so that I can apply it to my life.



# Cultural Sensitivity

I have an understanding and respect of different cultures, values, and points of view.



# Godly Self-Image

I recognize that every person is created in God's image for a purpose.



# Living Productively

I contribute my time, energies, and talents to improve the quality of life in our school community, nation, and world.



# Critical Thinkers

I apply higher-level thinking skills to academic and real-world scenarios.



# Quality Communicators

I effectively express my thoughts, ideas, and emotions in a variety of ways, such as verbal, written, and artistic.



# Problem Solvers

I define and resolve problems based on prior knowledge and research in academic and real-world scenarios.



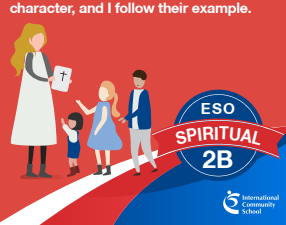
# Develop Biblical Character by Imitating Christ

I follow Jesus' examples of how to live life and treat others.



# Develop Biblical Character by Modeling Teachers

I recognize situations when my teachers and other authorities are modeling good character, and I follow their example.



# Develop Biblical Character by Obeying Biblical Authority

I respect and honor the systems and authorities that God has made, such as my family, school, community, government, and country.



# English



## Grade 6

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 6

In ELA 6, we will be reading and analyzing several fictional and informational texts at an introductory level, learning the structure of academic essay writing, producing high-quality multimedia projects and presentations, and speaking and writing with correct, standardized English grammar particularly for students that are starting out at the middle school level. By the end of this course, students will learn to interact with literature and be able to express themselves in oral and written form that is consistent with grade level fluency and appropriateness.

## Grade 7

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

In ELA 7, we will be reading and analyzing several fictional and informational texts, learning the structure of academic essay writing, producing high-quality multimedia projects and presentations, and speaking and writing with correct, standardized English grammar at an intermediate level. By the end of this course, students will learn to interact with literature and be able to express themselves in oral and written form that is suitable for academic and online communication.

## Grade 8

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

In ELA 8, we will be reading and analyzing several fictional and informational texts, learning about the research process and writing a research paper, producing high-quality multimedia projects and presentations, and speaking and writing with correct, standardized English grammar at a level that is conducive to students that are preparing to enter high school. By the end of this course, students will learn to interact with literature and be able to express themselves in oral and written form. Students will be prepared for high school in their reading ability, quality of writing, and their use of rhetorical devices.

# Math



## **MATH COURSE 1**

This course builds on the arithmetic skills developed in earlier years and introduces more complex operations such as prime factors, exponents, and parentheses. More abstract concepts are introduced as well, such as expressions and variables, coordinates, and ratios. Area calculations are extended to more complex shapes, and basic statistical concepts are introduced and applied. Problem-solving, reasoning, and connections between math and everyday applications will be emphasized throughout Math Course 1.

## **MATH COURSE 2**

This course is a continuation of the math taught in Math Course 1. It will focus primarily on geometry, measurement, data analysis, and number sense. It will build a foundation through the use of technology, manipulatives, problem-solving, and cooperative learning to prepare students for pre-algebra. Problem-solving, reasoning, and connections between math and everyday applications will be emphasized throughout Math Course 2.

## **PRE-ALGEBRA**

This course is to serve as a bridge between middle school mathematics and Algebra 1. It is designed to prepare students for a standard high school algebra course. It will build a foundation of algebraic concepts through the use of technology, manipulatives, problem-solving, and cooperative learning. Concepts include algebraic expressions, linear equations, inequalities, geometry, statistics, and graphing. Reasoning and connections between math and everyday applications will be emphasized throughout Pre-Algebra.

## **ALGEBRA 1**

Algebra 1 is a High School course earning High School credit. Middle School students should expect to be challenged. Pre-algebra skills in solving equations and inequalities are extended to include solutions of more complex equations and systems. Function notation is introduced, and linear functions are explored by graphing and analytical methods. Operations involving polynomials lead to solving quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square, and graphical methods. Other nonlinear functions (inverse, radical and rational functions) are introduced briefly.



## SCIENCE 6

Science 6 is a new program that blends hands-on investigations, literacy-rich activities, and interactive digital tools to empower students to think, read, write and argue like real scientists and engineers. Students' abilities will be progressively built to meet all the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) grade-level expectations through a three-dimensional sequence as we progress through various units in the Life Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, and Physical Sciences. Engineering Internship Units in Metabolism and Earth's Changing Climate follows their respective units to reinforce key concepts and guide students to apply what they have learned to design a solution to engineering problems.

## SCIENCE 7

Science 7 blends hands-on investigations, literacy-rich activities, and interactive digital tools to empower students to think, read, write and argue like real scientists and engineers. As we transition to this new program, students' abilities will be progressively built to meet all the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) grade-level expectations through a three-dimensional sequence as we progress through various units in the Earth and Space Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Life Sciences.

## SCIENCE 8

Science 8 blends hands-on investigations, literacy-rich activities, and interactive digital tools to empower students to think, read, write and argue like real scientists and engineers. Students' abilities will be progressively built to meet all the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) grade-level expectations through a three-dimensional sequence as we progress through various units in the Physical Sciences, Earth and Space Sciences, and Life Sciences. The Engineering Internship units in Force and Motion, as well as Natural Selection, further reinforce key concepts in the respective units and guide students to apply what they have learned to design a solution to engineering problems.

# Social Studies



## **SOCIAL STUDIES: GLOBAL STUDIES 6**

This course aims to cover the basics of geography - both physical and human. Students will study the physical geography of different regions of the world and learn how this often directly impacts the cultural ideas of a particular place. The students will become more adept at understanding the cultural diversity and political events happening around the world.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES: ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS 7**

This course will be one that focuses on the themes of human civilization. It will focus primarily on the River Valley civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, as well as the foundations of Western thought in the civilizations of the Greeks and finally the Romans. We will examine key historical movements, events, and figures, and explore the interconnections of people, places, events, and developments.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES: U.S. HISTORY 8**

This course will cover the growth of the United States of America from its early beginnings through to Reconstruction covering themes of exploration, revolution, freedom, development of government, expansion, industrialization, and war. It will focus primarily on the region of the United States, but will also touch on all the other areas of the world that had an impact on the U.S.'s development. We will examine key historical movements, events, and figures as well as explore the interconnections of people, places, events, and developments.

# Design Technology



## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 6

Design Technology 6 is a project based course in which students will explore their creativity through hands-on learning and collaborative experiences in making and inventing. This course is centered around three themes: creating with digital media; using the design process to create innovative artifacts; and effectively contributing to project teams. Topics include 3D design and 3D printing, robotics, programming, and video production. The learning experiences in this course are designed to help students foster a growth mindset, allowing students to try new things, celebrate progress, and develop persistence.

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 7

Design Technology 7 will build on the skills and experiences of the previous course while driving students to higher levels of complexity in the creative work. This course is project based and centered around three themes: using cyclical design to improve prototypes; empathy and human-centered design; and effectively contributing to project teams. Topics include graphic design, data collection and analysis, product development, marketing, and interactive robots. The overall goal of this course is to prepare students for their future courses and careers through open-ended challenges to develop complex problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, and collaborative skills.

## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY 8

Design Technology 8 will continue to develop students' creative potential through open-ended projects that allow for greater autonomy and student ownership of their learning. This project based course is focused on three themes: using cyclical design to improve prototypes; effectively presenting creations to an audience; and project management. Topics include programming, design thinking, wearable technology, and research. The learning experiences in this course will foster a culture of innovation, empowering students to be creative problem-solvers and behave like designers. Students will learn more about their world and be challenged to use their gifts to contribute to the good in the world for the glory of God.



## **BIBLE 6: BIBLE BASICS**

The purpose of the Bible 6 course is to establish how to read the Bible from an academic and from a personal devotional perspective. The students will learn a foundational method of inductive Bible reading, and will be able to write about and talk about the Bible from a personal study perspective. Students will also learn about the Grand Narrative, which is a way of understanding the Bible that connects the entirety of the Bible into one cohesive story that is connected through one common theme, rather than thinking about the Bible as a collection of separate stories. By the end of 6th grade Bible, the students will be able to look at any passage of Scripture and come to a conclusion about what the Scripture is saying through their use of inductive Bible study, and will be able to articulate how that Bible passage fits into the Grand Narrative themes and structures.

## **BIBLE 7: WISDOM AND POETRY**

The purpose of the Bible 7 course is to understand how to get wisdom from a biblical perspective. This course will focus specifically on the books of Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Job. Students will examine various sources for whereby we can obtain wisdom utilizing a biblical worldview. By the end of this course, students will be able to articulate what biblical wisdom is, will know where to look in the Bible for advice on various practical aspects of life, and will see how their own lives can be established in the wisdom found in the Bible. Students will continue to grow in their inductive Bible study and biblical meditation skills to aid in this process of the search for Biblical wisdom.

## **BIBLE 8: FOUNDATION AND THE PATRIARCHS**

The purpose of the Bible 8 course is to lay the foundation for the biblical narrative by studying Genesis and Exodus. Students will understand the narratives of creation, the fall, and the beginning of the plan of redemption executed by God in his calling of his people. Students will be able to identify the patriarchs in the Pentateuch, and will be able to articulate how those patriarchs are part of God's Grand Narrative in leading up to the person of Jesus Christ. The students will wrestle with some of the most famous stories of the Old Testament found in Genesis and Exodus, and will be able to see how these stories are not individual stories, but that they are all linked together with common themes, and by being able to see the true character of God. By the end of this course, students will be able to articulate how God seeks relationships with people, and how he is working throughout history to accomplish his goal of redemption.

# Physical Education



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education involves not only physical movement but movement concepts, tactical awareness, fitness knowledge, and social interactions. The year will be divided into 8 units each unit will be a sports topic but things learned within the unit might not exclusively deal with that sport as we will work on mental health, social interaction or various fitness/nutritional topics. There will be seven specific sports and one unit that encompasses fitness & dance. The units covered in PE will include soccer, volleyball, pickleball (paddle sport), basketball, (team) handball, flag football, dance, HIIT, aerobic and anaerobic training, and softball.

# Electives



*The inclusion of an elective course description in this guide does not guarantee the elective course will be offered or will fit into a student's schedule or will have space for enrollment. The scheduling of an elective course is often dependent on a minimum number of interested students.*

## 3D DESIGN AND PRINTING

In this course students will develop their 3D design skills and learn about 3D printing. Students will build their foundational knowledge of 3D design, spatial reasoning and fine motor skills. Students will use 3D design to create, innovate and solve real world problems.

## ART

This art course includes hands-on studio explorations in drawing, sculpting, and exhibition. It also includes a glance at art history, including personal art history and art thinking. Students will engage in fun, meaningful individual and collaborative projects and activities, with an aim to develop art skills, creativity, and personal discipline.

## CHOIR

Middle School Choir is a traditional performing ensemble open to any willing students. In Choir, students will learn basic vocal production techniques and how to read and interpret basic western musical notation in treble and/or bass clef through rehearsing and performing standard choral literature throughout the year. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of musical literature including but not limited to, classical sacred and secular choral works, jazz, Broadway and show tunes, folk music, and popular music arrangements in 2-3 parts.

## COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

This is a fun, collaborative, creative introduction to Computer Science. It is designed to inspire students to continue learning how technology improves real-world relationships, connections, and life. Students will learn how the Internet works, develop basic computer programming skills, and develop skills such as logic, problem-solving, and creativity.

## DIGITAL PUBLISHING

Students will learn to produce and publish digital media including but not limited to posters, infographics, printed ads, and videos. Students will also explore and learn different video filming techniques.

## DRAMA

This course will focus instruction on basic acting skills and improvisation, with introductory units in drama production concepts such as staging, lighting, and sound design. Students will learn and apply general theater terminology, acting skills, improvisation techniques, and accents (if applicable). Additionally, students will engage directly in the annual production as actors or stage hands.

## **GUITAR**

In Middle School Guitar, we will learn the basics of playing the acoustic guitar as well as the beginning fundamentals of music. Picking technique, common chords, and easy songs are all covered at this time. No previous experience is required as each semester we start from the beginning.

## **MANDARIN 1**

Mandarin 1 introduces students to the foundation of the language including HanYu Pin Yin (the Mandarin phonetic system) and Chinese character writing strokes. Students will learn basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills based on topics covered such as Greetings, Numbers, Telling the Date and Time, Introducing Oneself and One's Family, Occupations, and Transport.

## **MANDARIN 2**

Mandarin 2 is an intermediate course that continues to train students' listening, speaking, reading and writing skills by introducing them to more topics related to school and daily life. The students are also exposed to a wider range of vocabulary and more simple sentence structures.

## **MANDARIN 3**

Mandarin 3 students will continue to learn grammar and different phrases to form comprehensible ideas that will be used in common conversation. The topics covered will consist of characteristics of people, life around the house, the school environment, and food culture and cuisine. These units will allow the student to grow in the ability to read, write, speak, and listen. Familiar topics and simple sentences will be used to evaluate the student's oral speaking skills and their listening comprehension skills. Similarly, reading and writing skills will be learned through the information that has been given through the familiar text that the class will be studying during the year.

## **MANDARIN 4**

MS Mandarin 4 students will continue to learn Chinese culture, literature, idioms and its usage, as they study the language more in depth. In this course, students will develop the proficiency to communicate in a Mandarin-speaking environment, allowing them to discuss and express their ideas effectively. Students will develop and expand their language skills in four main areas: listening; speaking; reading; and writing. Listening and speaking skills will improve with increased understanding during conversations on a larger variety of interests. The aspect of reading focuses on interpreting a variety of forms of communication that can be applied to everyday life. Writing exercises will be used to help the student create more coherent written works. These skills will be developed through a larger variety of topics: people and relationships; traveling around the world; Chinese culture; and work and activities. Students will also be introduced to speaking and writing for formal settings.

## **MODERN WORSHIP BAND**

Students will examine historical and contemporary church music styles and themes. Through preparation and performances for ICS Chapel and other events, students will consider the impact of technology on worship and the purposes of music worship. NOTE: By signing up for class, students will be performing on percussion, keyboard, guitar, bass, strings, or vocals .

## **MUSIC APPRECIATION**

Come one, come all, and learn all about the ingredients of music. This class provides students with a variety of musical experiences to develop a critical and discerning judgement of musical performances, compositions, and productions. Among different genre studies this class will also cover the human voice, and digital recording, and manipulation. Students will not only create music together as a class (no prior skills necessary), but will also develop their musical listening and hearing skills.

## **ROBOTICS**

Students will learn the basic theories of robotics and how machines in everyday life work. Students will be given challenges or real-life problems to tackle. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to design robotic systems that resolve real-world problems.

## **SPANISH 1**

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language. It focuses mainly on the areas of speaking and listening, but also on basic reading and writing skills as well. Some of the topics covered will include: basic greetings; family members; likes and dislikes; school subjects; school supplies; basic food vocabulary; basic clothing vocabulary; and basic travel vocabulary.

## **SPANISH 2**

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1, and will focus on the four areas of listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The prerequisite for this course is MS Spanish 1 or its equivalent. Some of the topics covered will include: numbers from 100-1000; basic house/home vocabulary; extensive work with descriptions of people/places/things; travel vocabulary, restaurant vocabulary; and how to discuss about the future.

## **SPANISH 3**

Middle School Spanish 3 is a continuation of Middle School Spanish 2 and will challenge students with advanced vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structures that will be useful and necessary in more complex conversations and situations. Students will continue to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills as well as continue learning more about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries around the world.

## **SPORTS DEVELOPMENT**

Do you love sports and want to be a better athlete? If so, then this is the perfect elective for you! In Sports Development you will learn and practice a variety of strength training and fitness exercises that require little to no equipment and only a small amount of space.

## **VIDEO EDITING & PRODUCTION**

Students will experience the creative and technical aspects of filmmaking as they learn the fundamentals of video production. In pre-production, students learn the principles of story development, script writing, and storyboarding. In the production stage, students learn the foundations of visual composition, lighting, and sound. In post-production, students will learn how to use software applications to edit video and audio clips to create a film. Students will apply their learning in several mini-projects while developing skills in planning, organization, collaboration, and creativity.

## **VIDEO GAME DESIGN**

In this course, students use programming skills to create video games. They will learn the foundations of basic programming, with an emphasis on helping students develop logical thinking, problem solving and creativity skills.



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