



THE BROOK HILL SCHOOL
CHRIST-CENTERED. COLLEGE PREP.

COURSE GUIDE

2026-2027

MIDDLE SCHOOL

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MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE PLAN

Required Subjects	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Humanities (English & History)	Humanities 6	Humanities 7	Humanities 8
Mathematics	Math 6	Pre-Algebra	Essentials of Algebra Algebra 1 (US Credit)
Science	Earth Science 6	Life Science 7	Physical Science
Bible	Bible 6	Bible 7	Bible 8
Arts	Arts Rotation	Electives - Choose Two:	
Athletics	MS Athletics		
	6 th Grade Transition Course	Art Choir Drama Orchestra Robotics Computer Science MS Athletics *Spanish 8 (US Credit - 8 th Grade Only)	

REGISTRATION POLICIES & PROCEDURES

ELIGIBILITY FOR REGISTRATION

RETURNING STUDENTS

The Admissions Office and Business Office will determine a returning student's eligibility to register for the next year. Once cleared through both offices, the Academic Office will create a class schedule. This class schedule will be available for viewing, allowing students time to purchase books and complete summer reading. Course placement will continue to change until school begins because of leveling, staff changes, etc.

NEW STUDENTS

The Admissions Office and Business Office will determine a new student's eligibility to register for the next year. Once cleared through both offices, the Academic Office will receive the student's completed file (including final grades from the previous school year and complete official transcript) and will contact the student/parents to schedule a scheduling appointment. Please note that placement testing might be required; therefore, required testing must be completed before the course selection appointment.

COURSE AVAILABILITY

The preliminary choice of courses during the registration process helps to establish the widest range of individual choice. It is, however, sometimes necessary to ask students to accept modifications to their original choice. This may be due to the following:

- An insufficient number of students selecting a course so that it is no longer viable;
- Encountering scheduling difficulties - one course conflicting with another.

We ask students to be flexible in their course selection choices. We always hope to meet students' requests to help them in their planned course of study.

DROP/ADD COURSE POLICY

Ordinarily, students will not be permitted to add or drop courses after the start of the semester in which the course begins. Students and parents are expected to be conscientious in their course selection decisions. Teachers, students, parents, and the Academic Counselor are all involved in the process. Therefore, once a program of study has been initiated, changes to selections can occur only if:

- A student has been incorrectly placed
- There is a medical reason for course change
- Credit has already been granted for the course in question
- A prerequisite for the course in question is missing

Schedule changes initiated by the administration to balance class sizes may occur anytime.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BIBLE DEPARTMENT

The school is committed to the Bible as God's revealed Word; therefore, our Bible curriculum emphasizes teaching our students to read and study the Bible for themselves. Our approach is inductive, raising the questions necessary to involve the learner in the text and make valid conclusions from the reading. Our desire is that the reading and study will lead each student into a deeper walk with Christ. The Bible classes are designed to help the students develop a Christian worldview and understand how biblical principles apply to today's situations. The Brook Hill Bible Department teaches three different approaches to Bible study: historical, literary, and theological. The middle school focuses on a historical approach. Middle school students learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible. Grades 9 and 10 focus on a literary approach. During these grades, students learn how to recognize and interpret literary devices in the Bible and begin to develop hermeneutical skills for interpreting and applying the Bible into their own lives. Grades 11 and 12 explore a theological approach. During their final two years at Brook Hill, students will recognize basic theological truths, compare a Christian worldview with that of other major religious traditions, and study apologetics.

Bible 6

Bible 6 will walk students through the first half of the Old Testament. The course focuses on the geography, language, characters, and literary style of the Old Testament while also focusing on the character of God. During this first year of Middle School Bible, students will read about the Creation of the Universe all the way through to the reigns of King David and Solomon. Special emphasis is given to the truth that God created human beings to flourish as they recognize who God is and how God designed for them to live their lives as His chosen people. Every day students will be challenged to learn how best to practically live out their love for God in real-life scenarios while growing in their ability to read and interpret God's word.

Bible 7/8 (Prophets and Apostles)

Prophets and Apostles will provide the second parts of the Old Testament and New Testament. During the first semester, students will read through the stories of the prophets during the fall of the kingdom of Israel and the return from Exile. While in the second semester, students will read through the Acts of the Apostles, Paul's letters, the General Epistles, and the book of Revelation. Every day students will be challenged to learn how best to practically live out their love for God in real-life scenarios while growing in their ability to read and interpret God's word.

Bible 7/8 (The story of Jesus)

The story of Jesus will introduce students to the story and literature of the Gospels. The course focuses on the geography, language, characters, and literary style of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John while also focusing on the character of Jesus. Students will read through the Gospels to grasp the true essence of God's message of salvation and His kingdom. Every day students will be challenged to learn how best to practically live out their love for God in real-life scenarios while growing in their ability to read and interpret God's word.

The Bible 7/8 courses are taught on a two-year rotating basis.

ARTS DEPARTMENT

The role of the Arts Department is to develop the talents, ideas, skills, and creativity of each Brook Hill student through the study of the visual and performing arts, as well as to enrich their lives. Through this process, the student gains an appreciation for beauty and the cultivation of the skills necessary for self-expression and communication. The study of the Arts nurtures a perception of the beauty of God's creation and, through it, the beauty of God, the Creator. As Dr. Francis Schaeffer summarizes, the student discovers that "the Christian is one whose imagination should soar beyond the stars."

6th Grade Arts Rotation

The introductory arts curriculum allows sixth-grade students to experience equal units of instruction in all the arts disciplines. Learning about all the options, exploring their own individual strengths and areas of interest, and getting acquainted with every arts teacher puts the student in the best position to elect one particular art class to pursue during their Middle School careers.

Art 7

This foundational course establishes studio habits of mind, heart, and creative practices within the studio environment (the art room) and the student's artistic practices. Studio habits are rooted in intentional and thoughtful engagement in the creative environment and artistic practices. Students will begin learning the basic elements of visual art: shape, line, space, form, texture, value, and color, while creating a range of projects. Students will learn about drawing skills such as perspective, value, and proportion and begin working on creative expression and using narrative in their work. Various materials and creative processes will be available for students to explore; examples include graphite, paint, printmaking, collage, colored pencil, marker, pastels, wire, and clay. Weekly discussions will teach students about contemporary and historical art periods and artists.

Art 8

This advanced foundational course continues to develop and instill studio habits of mind, heart, and creative practices within the studio environment (the art room) and the student's artistic practices. Students will advance their knowledge of the elements of visual art: shape, line, space, form, texture, value, and color, and will begin learning the principles of design: unity, balance, emphasis, movement, contrast, and pattern. Students will continue to advance their drawing skills in areas such as perspective, value, facial features, and proportion. They will increase their understanding and use of creative expression and narrative in their work. Various materials and creative processes will be available for students to explore; examples include graphite, paint, printmaking, collage, colored pencil, marker, pastels, wire, and clay. Weekly discussions will teach students about contemporary and historical art periods and artists.

MS Choir

This course is a progressive study of choral music, techniques, and music theory through a variety of styles and genres of music. Students will begin learning through unison and multi-part sight-singing and performance music. Learning to read musical notation is done campus-wide through use of the Kodaly Method. Throughout the year, students are presented multiple performance opportunities in chapel, formal concerts, and outside performances in the community. Students in this program are encouraged but not required to expand their knowledge and skills through participation in the annual spring Musical.

MS Theater

The Middle School Theater class will help students develop their communication skills and self-confidence as we focus on effectively using the “tools of the actor,” – the voice, facial expression, body posture and gestures. Students will tap into their inner creative natures and imaginations as they learn to create interesting and age-appropriate characters. Class activities include improvisational exercises, oral interpretation of poetry and prose, duet acting scenes and the production of a performance. Giving and receiving peer critiques is an important learning activity in the class. Advanced students will be able to compete in the annual PSIA speech meet. As students participate as part of a cast or production crew, they will learn about teamwork, cooperation and being dependable.

MS Orchestra

This course is for students who are beginners or have studied a string instrument in 6th-grade rotation or at the Lower School. Students will have opportunities to participate in solo and ensemble performances, competitions, and concerts throughout the year.

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

The philosophy of the Brook Hill Humanities Department is to teach an integrated curriculum of history and English. We do this because we believe that students gain a better understanding of the world around them when they view literature through the eyes of history and history through the eyes of literature. Students benefit from having two dedicated instructors—one in history and one in literature—who collaborate closely and maintain a deep understanding of one another’s material to ensure a seamless learning experience.

This helps the student understand how the works and the people who wrote them were influenced by their times. It also reveals the universal nature of the great works, which are classics, precisely because they somehow speak to all people at all times. Through such historical/literary integration, students are grounded in a view of the world that enhances and illuminates their more specialized studies of math, science, art, and foreign languages. The Middle School courses cover the history, writings, people, events, etc. of the ancient world (grade 6), Texas (grade 7), and the United States (grade 8), while the Upper School courses cover the western world (grades 9 and 10) and the United States (grade 11).

Not only does this sort of interconnected teaching help students integrate knowledge, it also enables them to refine their communication skills under the careful attention and evaluation of their teachers. In short, a major emphasis of these courses is to help the students grow in the strategic skills of communication—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—which will enable them to move into any arena of life as confident, articulate, truthful, and persuasive individuals.

Humanities 6

This course includes the continual development of the following skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It is an integration of English grammar and writing skills, along with the study of geography and history of ancient civilizations. Students will read from a variety of literary works. The writing component progresses from sentence structure to the well-developed short essay. A formal sequential study of grammar is included in the course beginning with a foundation of the parts of speech. In

addition to the academic curriculum, this course also emphasizes personal organization, group dynamics, test-taking strategies, and critical thinking.

Humanities 7: Texas History and World Geography

This course will lead students through the history of Texas, from the prehistoric formation of geographic landforms and settlement of early Amerindians to its days as a part of Mexico to the Republic. Students will be given a survey of world geography, paying particular attention to learning vital map skills and better understanding the State of Texas. The literature of the course includes novels and biographies about Texas and important people from her past, as well as various short stories from the vast body of American literature. Formal grammar studies and vocabulary development will continue to be strengthened through systematic instruction. Writing will focus on formatting essays, development in conciseness and coherence, and other writing skills for effective communication.

Humanities 8: American History

This course surveys the historical events leading to the Civil War and continues through the issues facing our nation today while connecting the literature of our nation to its historical context. The study of language includes vocabulary, parts of speech, mechanics, sentence structures, and the process of writing. Critical thinking skills will be developed through analysis of literary works and through writing responses – both formal and informal. Utilization of research, persuasion, and comparison/contrast techniques will further develop the effective writing skills necessary for high school and beyond. Students will be encouraged to write both creatively and analytically to further enhance understanding of the history/literature connection. The concept of God's sovereignty will be emphasized as we evaluate our place in the "cycle of a nation," the legacy we received, and the legacy that is being passed on to future generations.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Mathematics is more than the study of numbers, patterns, and shapes. Collectively, it is a language that God uses to describe the physical universe to mankind. It is a creative, dynamic system that man can use to model and understand his environment. It reveals glimpses of the nature of God (His orderliness, trustworthiness, omniscience, and omnipotence) while developing important character qualities such as patience, perseverance, resourcefulness, alertness, and creativity.

Students cultivate problem-solving skills, analytical thinking, attention to detail, and logic through their study. It encourages the development of sound reasoning techniques and rewards consistent work habits. The Brook Hill School's mathematics program is designed to stimulate a student's intellectual curiosity and give him/her exposure to the technology of today's mathematics.

Math 6

The math curriculum for this level is designed to promote the development of the student's understanding of practical mathematical concepts and procedures in a way that fosters their ability to solve problems, reason, and communicate in mathematical terminology. The elements covered will include all arithmetic operations, integer operations, fractions, decimals, and percent operations.

Math 7: Pre-Algebra

The Pre-Algebra curriculum is designed to give the student the skills and foundation necessary for success in the next level of mathematics. The student will reinforce arithmetic skills while learning the more abstract concepts associated with algebraic thinking. The elements covered will include multi-step problem solving, solving for unknowns, real number operations, and an introduction to linear equations & equalities, geometry, functions, and polynomials.

Essentials of Algebra (8th Grade)

This course in Pre-Algebra is designed to give the student the skills necessary to be successful in Algebra 1. The elements taught will include all operations with rational numbers, solving equations and inequalities, problem-solving, measurement, geometry, probability and statistics, graphing, and polynomials.

Algebra 1 (8th Grade)

Algebra 1 is an important subject because it is the foundation for all upper-level mathematics at both high school and college levels. We aim to help the students acquire the skills they will need to succeed in these courses and become excellent problem solvers. The curriculum will include the study of integers and rational numbers, equations, inequalities, graphs, and linear equations, systems of equations, absolute value, exponents and polynomials, polynomials and factoring, the Pythagorean Theorem and radicals, relations and functions, quadratic equations.

ALGEBRA 1 PLACEMENT

To be placed in Algebra 1, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. A student must have a minimum score of 85 in Pre-Algebra.
2. A student must receive a recommendation from their Pre-Algebra teacher.
3. A student must pass the Algebra 1 readiness exam.

Students not meeting the Algebra 1 criteria will be placed into *Essentials of Algebra*.

Completing the Algebra 1 course earns the student one credit toward the upper school mathematics graduation requirement.

A student with a C or below average in Algebra 1 during grade eight may be advised to repeat this course in grade nine.

	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
MATH COURSE SEQUENCE	Math 6	Math 7	Essentials of Algebra	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Algebra 3
			Business Math/ Statistics DC				
	College Algebra/ Trigonometry DC						
	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Business Math/ Statistics DC	Business Math/ Statistics DC		
				College Algebra/ Trigonometry DC	College Algebra/ Trigonometry DC		
				AP Precalculus	AP/DC Calculus AB		
						AP Calculus BC	

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Physical Education is the study of the total person: physical, mental, emotional, and social, as well as spiritual. Through this study, the student has increased awareness of how the body functions and develops. They learn how to deal with stress through competition. Exposure to sports and lifetime activities enables the students to select better those activities which will later enhance their lives.

In II Corinthians 6:16, Paul writes that we are the “temple of the Living God.” It is the responsibility of all people to cherish and maintain their temple. The study of physical education clarifies the needs of our physical bodies and how we can best develop, understand, and care for this physical vessel which is God’s temple.

Physical Education / Athletics

The Physical Education department offers both team sports and individual activities. The objective is to equip students with several skills they can carry over into a lifetime of fitness. Strength and conditioning will be the primary focus of our program.

MS Athletics:

Fall-

- Football (Boys)
- Volleyball (Girls)
- Cross Country
- Cheerleading (Girls)

Winter-

- Basketball
- Soccer
- Cheerleading (Girls)

Spring-

- Baseball (Boys)
- Softball (Girls)
- Track
- Cheerleading (Girls)
- Golf
- Tennis

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All science faculty adhere to and instruct in congruence with a biblical worldview illuminating the creative majesty of God. As one studies science, he/she becomes more aware of the magnificence of the creator and the creation. Science is the study of the natural world and the things that affect it. The Brook Hill Science Department stresses critical thinking, logical reasoning, and problem-solving. Implementing a hands-on approach in science labs encourages cooperative learning leading to a firm foundation in the skills of observation, analysis, and drawing conclusions.

Middle School Science includes courses designed to lay a solid foundation in the natural sciences. Following are the different areas that are emphasized each year:

Science 6: Earth and Space Science

This course focuses on the study of energy, geology, meteorology, and astronomy. The approach to this class will include a great deal of “hands-on” activity by the students through class demonstrations, laboratory exercises, and student progress.

Science 7: Life Science

The study of science includes more than the absorption of information. Process skills and critical thinking skills are emphasized in Life Science. Students will be given many opportunities to develop these skills through a combination of laboratory experiments, class lectures, and field explorations.

Science 8: Physical Science

Physical Science is a course designed to instruct eighth-grade students in the study of chemistry and physics. It will lay a solid foundation in these areas so learning can be built on and extended in each area at the high school level. The course is designed to build scientific vocabulary and concepts and encourage and develop problem-solving skills. The approach to this class will include a great deal of “hands-on” activity by the students through class demonstrations, laboratory exercises, and student progress.

TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVE

MS Robotics

Grade(s): 7, 8

It's more than just robots. In this course students learn to think like engineers and computer programmers. This course will follow a basic format of computer programming in the fall and robotics in the spring.

In the fall semester students will use Scratch block coding to build beautiful designs, memes, and games. Students will learn the basics and principles of computer programming through easy to learn block coding. Towards the end of the semester, students will transition to a written language where mastery of programming basics will be necessary.

Starting in January, we will move to the RoboLab full time. There we will design, build, and program physical robots. These robots will need to be built or rebuilt for specific purposes. Navigating these challenges while working within the bounds of team relationships will be key to success.

Computer Science Explorations

Grade(s): 7, 8

Computer Science Explorations is a course that will sample a variety of computer science topics. Topics include: the history of computing, cybersecurity, the structure of the internet, website design, and game design. Several topics throughout the course will culminate in a significant project that will allow students to freely create and demonstrate what they have learned. Including building a full website or challenging game.

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

God is a communicator. In fact, He calls Himself the Word. Studying a world language and culture helps the student understand more of the diversity of God's creation. World language is the study of another people's language and culture. Through study, the student obtains proficiency in speaking a new language conversationally and begins understanding a different culture. In today's world, knowledge of another language is a great asset in obtaining a job in many highly competitive fields. Each world language class will integrate various lab activities and internet activities into the curriculum to improve speaking, listening, and reading skills and to aid in acquiring structure, vocabulary, and culture.

Spanish 8 (Upper School Spanish 1)

First-year Spanish language study is an in-depth introduction to the Spanish language, culture, and history of the Spanish-speaking world. Learning in the target language is aimed at acquisition in the following areas: oral proficiency, listening comprehension, reading comprehension, writing formally and informally, and historical and cultural awareness. *This class is for 8th grade students only and will count as a high school credit.*